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No. 146

## House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Loving God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

We ask today that You bless the Members of this assembly to be the best and most faithful servants of the people they serve. Purify their intentions, that they will speak the truth about what they believe and work to legislate responsibly, realizing that others are doing the same and that beliefs do differ.

Therefore, we ask a special blessing of patience, an ability to listen, and a shared desire to bring hope to the American people, their constituents, through a united effort to pass legislation that will help all in this Nation during these difficult times.

May the Members be filled with gratitude at the opportunity they have to serve in this people's House. We thank You for the abilities they have been given to do their work. May they use their talents as good stewards of Your many gifts and thereby be true servants of justice and partners in peace.

We thank You as well for this marvelous forum where the important business of this Nation has been done in the past and is done today. May the work being done now be guided by Your Spirit.

May all that is done this day in the people's House be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### VICE PRESIDENT BIDEN IS RIGHT: DEMOCRATS OWN THIS ECONOMY

(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, during a radio interview last week, Vice President JOE BIDEN acknowledged the current administration has responsibility for the economy. The Vice President stated, "Right now, we are the ones in charge. I don't blame them for being mad. We're in charge, so they're angry." I agree with the Vice President.

While the national unemployment rate continues to remain above 9 percent, this administration continues the failed policies of borrow and spend. It is a failed course.

Last week, I met with constituents across the Second Congressional District of South Carolina during the annual District Bus Tour, and without complaining, they urged: reduce spending, cut taxes, create jobs.

House Republicans have introduced numerous jobs bills designed to encourage hiring and long-term economic growth. Now is the time for liberals and the President to change course. They own it.

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

### RECOGNIZING FILMMAKER KEN BURNS

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, for two decades documentary filmmaker Ken Burns has been helping America understand who we are. Tonight, in the Visitors Center, there is a 5 o'clock reception and a 5:30 special screening of his new documentary on prohibition. He's had amazing productions dealing with the Civil War, baseball, jazz, the national parks, but this, I think, is going to be perhaps his best.

Based on what I saw last night, nothing is more timely, more profound for the challenges that we face today. And I can't wait for the next two episodes that will be aired tonight at 8 p.m. and again tomorrow.

Thank you, Mr. Burns. Thank you, PBS. Thanks to previous Congresses for support and the "pre-funding" that allows long-term projects like this. Here is another example of the unique and critical role played by public broadcasting, and Congress should make sure that it continues.

### SOLYNDRA

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, just before we left last week, two executives from a company called Solyndra came before the Energy and Commerce Committee voluntarily, but ultimately did not testify, invoking their Fifth Amendment rights.

Most Americans by now are becoming aware of the Solyndra story, a company that was initially denied a loan guarantee in the last days of the Bush administration but was hastily added to a list of projects that were covered by what was called the stimulus bill in

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g.,  1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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February of 2009. In a rush to get the money out the door—ahead of a photo op with the Vice President—apparently mistakes were made, and in the early days of September of this year Solyndra filed bankruptcy. This is a story that is yet to be completely understood. But, Mr. Speaker, here's the important part:

For almost 6 months' time, between February and July, the Committee on Energy and Commerce sought, unsuccessfully, to have records delivered to it from the Office of Management and Budget and the Department of Energy. It should not take a subpoena from a congressional committee for branches of the executive branch to supply us those documents. When we have questions, they need to respond. When we ask for information, they need to produce. And certainly, when we have a hearing, they need to attend.

It's time for the Secretary of Energy to come before our committee, explain what he knew about this process, and clear the air once and for all for the American people.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HARRIS). Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bills were signed by Speaker pro tempore HARRIS on Thursday, September 29, 2011:

H.R. 2005, to reauthorize the Combating Autism Act of 2006;

H.R. 2017, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 8 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 4 p.m.

□ 1600

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HARRIS) at 4 p.m.

#### MAKING IN ORDER CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO HOUSE AMENDMENT TO SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2608, CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2608) to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendment

thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order, a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendment; that the Senate amendment be considered as read; that the motion be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations; and that the previous question be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the original request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

#### 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 motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

#### UTAH NATIONAL GUARD READINESS ACT

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 686) to require the conveyance of certain public land within the boundaries of Camp Williams, Utah, to support the training and readiness of the Utah National Guard, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 686

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

*This Act may be cited as the "Utah National Guard Readiness Act".*

#### SEC. 2. LAND CONVEYANCE, CAMP WILLIAMS, UTAH.

*(a) CONVEYANCE REQUIRED.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Land Management, shall convey, without consideration, to the State of Utah all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to certain lands comprising approximately 420 acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Proposed Camp Williams Land Transfer" and dated June 14, 2011, which are located within the boundaries of the public lands currently withdrawn for military use by the Utah National Guard and known as Camp Williams, Utah, for the purpose of permitting the Utah National Guard to use the conveyed land as provided in subsection (c).*

*(b) SUPERSEDEENCE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER.—Executive Order No. 1922 of April 24, 1914, as amended by section 907 of the Camp W.G. Williams Land Exchange Act of 1989 (title IX of Public Law 101-628; 104 Stat. 4501), is hereby superseded, only insofar as it affects the lands identified for conveyance to the State of Utah under subsection (a).*

*(c) REVERSIONARY INTEREST.—The lands conveyed to the State of Utah under subsection (a) shall revert to the United States if the Secretary of Defense determines that the land, or any portion thereof, is sold or attempted to be sold, or that the land, or any portion thereof, is used for non-National Guard or non-national defense purposes.*

*(d) HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.—With respect to any portion of the land conveyed under subsection (a) that the Secretary of Defense determines is subject to reversion under subsection (c), if the Secretary of Defense also determines that the portion of the conveyed land contains hazardous materials, the State of Utah shall pay the United States an amount equal to the fair market value of that portion of the land, and the reversionary interest shall not apply to that portion of the land.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 686 is a bill I sponsored. It is a bipartisan bill, and it has the sponsorship of all of the members of the Utah delegation, Republican and Democrat, and directs the Secretary of the Interior through the BLM to convey to the State of Utah lands that have been withdrawn for military use by the Utah National Guard and known as Camp Williams in Utah.

The National Guard has had this facility and trained at Camp Williams since 1912. The 420 acres proposed for conveyance is located within the boundaries of Camp Williams and has already been withdrawn for military use by the National Guard.

The transfer will simply open up property that is along one of the major corridors there to help support the military use of this camp. For obvious reasons, placing the land in the ownership of the State will allow the State to bond for other facilities that need to be built there. The State of Utah will not bond for building facilities on land it does not own. So the transfer of title to those lands also expedites the building and expansion of Camp Williams and the training facilities to improve the readiness of the Utah National Guard.

This conveyance without consideration is consistent with other bills in which you are doing government to government conveyances. The bill includes a provision directing the land revert to Federal ownership if this property is not used for National Guard or national defense purposes.

So the bill was passed by the House by a voice vote last Congress. The administration supports this bill. It was requested by the Utah National Guard. As I said, it is cosponsored by the entire Utah delegation.

I urge its adoption, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. SABLAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 686 will transfer a parcel of Federal land to the State of Utah for use as part of a Utah National Guard facility. The bill specifies that the land would return to Federal ownership if it is no longer needed for national defense purposes.

This legislation passed the House under Democratic leadership in both the 110th and 111th Congresses, and we support its passage again today.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I have no requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss H.R. 686, "Utah National Guard Readiness Act." The bill requires the conveyance of certain public land within the boundaries of Camp Williams, Utah, to support the training and readiness of the Utah National Guard.

Our National Guard and in some instances combat soldiers of tomorrow must have access to training. Our troops must receive the training they need prior to being deployed in combat zones. By allocating parcels of land for that purpose helps to ensure our nation's security. Camp Williams, located 26 miles south of Salt Lake City, is a professional training environment operated by the Utah Army National Guard. The Utah Training Center consists of 24,000 acres of combat areas resembling the same types of environments encountered by those currently serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. Those facilities include small arms weapons firing ranges, artillery firing points, demolition, grenade and crew served weapon ranges.

This parcel of land will allow for specialized winter, desert, mountain, and amphibious training. Urban environments include the Mac MOUT Shoot-house, dismounted/mounted maneuver areas and the recently opened FOB. Leadership and individual training is enhanced by utilizing the rappel tower, leadership reaction course and Afghan Village. This facility seems to be well equipped for training the Utah National Guard.

The Utah National Guard has possessed facilities and trained at Camp Williams since 1912. H.R. 686 would convey 420 acres of land within the boundaries of Camp Williams, without consideration. The acreage proposed for conveyance is already withdrawn for military use by the Guard. This land transfer will open access to property along a major transportation corridor with all the utilities and services necessary to support expanded military use. The Utah National Guard already owns and operates several buildings, an air traffic control tower and a tactical airfield on portions of this property. Placing the land in the State's name for use by the National Guard consolidates ownership patterns in the headquarters

area and allows the State of Utah to bond for future Guard facilities. Transfer of title to these lands expedites the building and expansion of Camp Williams training facilities and would improve the readiness of the Utah National Guard. Additionally, the bill includes a provision directing that the land revert to federal ownership if it stops being used for National Guard or national defense purposes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 686, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

#### SKI AREA RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2011

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 765) to amend the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 to clarify the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture regarding additional recreational uses of National Forest System land that is subject to ski area permits, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 765

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Ski Area Recreational Opportunity Enhancement Act of 2011".

#### SEC. 2. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Act is to amend the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 497b)—

(1) to enable snow-sports (other than nordic and alpine skiing) to be permitted on National Forest System land subject to ski area permits issued by the Secretary of Agriculture under section 3 of the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 497b); and

(2) to clarify the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture to permit appropriate additional seasonal or year-round recreational activities and facilities on National Forest System land subject to ski area permits issued by the Secretary of Agriculture under section 3 of the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 497b).

#### SEC. 3. SKI AREA PERMITS.

Section 3 of the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 497b) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking "nordic and alpine ski areas and facilities" and inserting "ski areas and associated facilities";

(2) in subsection (b), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "nordic and alpine skiing operations and purposes" and inserting "skiing and other snow sports and recreational uses authorized by this Act";

(3) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively;

(4) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) OTHER RECREATIONAL USES.—

“(1) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY.—Subject to the terms of a ski area permit issued pursuant to subsection (b), the Secretary may authorize a ski area permittee to provide such other seasonal or year-round natural resource-based recreational activities and associated facilities (in addition to skiing and other snow-sports) on National Forest System land subject to a ski area permit as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

“(2) REQUIREMENTS.—Each activity and facility authorized by the Secretary under paragraph (1) shall—

“(A) encourage outdoor recreation and enjoyment of nature;

“(B) to the extent practicable—

“(i) harmonize with the natural environment of the National Forest System land on which the activity or facility is located; and

“(ii) be located within the developed portions of the ski area;

“(C) be subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary determines to be appropriate; and

“(D) be authorized in accordance with—

“(i) the applicable land and resource management plan; and

“(ii) applicable laws (including regulations).

“(3) INCLUSIONS.—Activities and facilities that may, in appropriate circumstances, be authorized under paragraph (1) include—

“(A) zip lines;

“(B) mountain bike terrain parks and trails;

“(C) frisbee golf courses; and

“(D) ropes courses.

“(4) EXCLUSIONS.—Activities and facilities that are prohibited under paragraph (1) include—

“(A) tennis courts;

“(B) water slides and water parks;

“(C) swimming pools;

“(D) golf courses; and

“(E) amusement parks.

“(5) LIMITATION.—The Secretary may not authorize any activity or facility under paragraph (1) if the Secretary determines that the authorization of the activity or facility would result in the primary recreational purpose of the ski area permit to be a purpose other than skiing and other snow-sports.

“(6) BOUNDARY DETERMINATION.—In determining the acreage encompassed by a ski area permit under subsection (b)(3), the Secretary shall not consider the acreage necessary for activities and facilities authorized under paragraph (1).

“(7) EFFECT ON EXISTING AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES.—Nothing in this subsection affects any activity or facility authorized by a ski area permit in effect on the date of enactment of this subsection during the term of the permit.”;

(5) by striking subsection (d) (as redesignated by paragraph (3)), and inserting the following:

“(d) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations to implement this section.”; and

(6) in subsection (e) (as redesignated by paragraph (3)), by striking “the National Environmental Policy Act, or the Forest and Rangelands Renewable Resources Planning Act as amended by the National Forest Management Act” and inserting “the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1600 et seq.)”.

## SEC. 4. EFFECT.

Nothing in the amendments made by this Act establishes a legal preference for the holder of a ski area permit to provide activities and associated facilities authorized by section 3(c) of the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 497b(c)) (as amended by section 3).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 765 amends the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to permit seasonal and year-round natural resource-based recreational activities that are associated with those facilities on the National Forest ski areas. Current law does not address any activities other than winter-related Nordic and alpine skiing, snow sports, and their ancillary facilities at ski areas on Forest Service land. Congress needs to pass this act to allow new activities such as climbing walls, mountain biking, alpine slides, and zip-lines to be able to be used.

The additional seasonal and year-round recreation authorized by this bill would allow the private sector to create year-round jobs, expand their wholesome outdoor recreational opportunities for American families and for visitors from overseas.

Facilities authorized by this bill will have to be in harmony with the natural environment. Furthermore, the legislation does not waive such laws as the Endangered Species Act or the National Environmental Policy Act to allow for these activities to take place. So the ski areas on the Forest Service lands are already themselves classified as developed sites. So these new activities will be in keeping with the intended use of these areas.

□ 1610

Finally, I would also like to thank Chairman LUCAS of the Committee on Agriculture for assisting us in bringing this bill to the floor today. His cooperation on this and other issues shared with the Committee on Natural Resources is very much appreciated.

To support this understanding, I am including in the RECORD an exchange of letters between Chairman LUCAS and Chairman DOC HASTINGS regarding this particular bill.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,  
Washington, DC, July 21, 2011.

Hon. DOC HASTINGS,  
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN HASTINGS: I am writing to you regarding H.R. 765, the Ski Recreational Opportunity Enhancement Act of 2011 which amends the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 to allow Forest Service permits to include year-round recreational use of ski areas. The bill also amends the Act to allow for snowboarding and other snow sports on Forest Service lands, in addition to ski activities already permitted.

H.R. 765 has been referred to the Committee on Agriculture, in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources. On June 15, 2011, H.R. 765 was reported out of the House Natural Resources Committee by unanimous consent.

It is my understanding that the Committee on Natural Resources wishes to consider this important piece of legislation expeditiously. Therefore, I will agree to discharge H.R. 765 from further consideration by the Committee on Agriculture. I do so with the understanding that this action in no way waives the Committee on Agriculture's jurisdictional interests in the subject matter of the legislation nor serves as a precedent for future referrals. Furthermore, in the event a House-Senate conference is requested on this matter, the Committee on Agriculture reserves the right to seek the appointment of conferees.

I ask that you insert a copy of our exchange of letters into the Congressional Record during consideration of this measure on the House floor.

Thank you for your courtesy in this matter and I look forward to continued cooperation between the Committee on Natural Resources and the Committee on Agriculture as we deal with forestry issues in the future.

Sincerely,

FRANK D. LUCAS,  
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,  
Washington, DC, September 28, 2011.

Hon. FRANK LUCAS,  
Chairman, Committee on Agriculture,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 765, the Ski Area Recreational Opportunity Enhancement Act of 2011. As you know, the Committee on Natural Resources ordered reported the bill by unanimous consent on June 15, 2011. I recognize and appreciate your desire to bring this legislation before the House of Representatives in an expeditious manner, and accordingly, understand that the Committee on Agriculture will forego action on the bill.

The Committee on Natural Resources concurs with the mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 765 at this time, the Committee on Agriculture does not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation. Your committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as the bill or similar legislation moves forward. In addition, should a conference on the bill be necessary, I would support your request to have the Committee on Agriculture represented on the conference committee, as you are the primary committee of jurisdiction. Finally, I would be pleased to include your letter and this response in the Congressional Record during floor consideration, to memorialize our understanding.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

DOC HASTINGS,  
Chairman.

I urge the adoption of the measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. SABLAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, the law governing the use of Forest Service lands for ski resorts has not kept pace with the development of year-round activities at many of these sites. New legislation is needed to authorize activities such as rock climbing, mountain biking and other offseason recreational activities.

H.R. 765 will authorize the Forest Service to permit certain nonsnow sports identified in the bill while specifically prohibiting things like tennis courts, swimming pools, and golf courses. The legislation will provide this expanded authority while ensuring that only activities which encourage outdoor recreation and harmonize with the environment are permitted.

Our colleague, Representative DEGETTE of Colorado, sponsored this legislation in the previous Congress and successfully guided the bill to approval by the House. This is important legislation that will create jobs, and she is to be commended for her leadership on this bill.

We support H.R. 765.

I have no requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, as has been mentioned by the gentleman, this is a bipartisan bill. I urge its adoption. It's a very good bill.

I have no requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to bring this bill to the floor today. In my home state of Colorado, outdoor activities such as skiing, snowboarding, mountain biking, and hiking are part of our everyday lives. These activities often occur in our fantastic ski areas—many of which are located on public lands.

The Ski Area Recreational Opportunity Enhancement Act of 2011 clarifies the authority of the Forest Service to permit appropriate summer or year-round activities for ski areas. My bill will expand access to outdoor recreation, providing more opportunities for families to spend time outdoors. In the 2010/2011 ski season, there were over 60 million skier/snowboarder visits to American ski areas with nearly 21 million visits in the Rocky Mountain region. Providing summer recreation opportunities at already developed ski areas means winter guests will be more likely to return to their favorite spots at other times of the year. It will also provide substantial benefits to our local economies, and help create stable, year-round jobs in the thirteen states that are currently home to ski resorts on public land. The Outdoor Industry Association estimates active outdoor recreation, including activities at ski areas, contributes \$730 billion to the U.S. economy annually.

Furthermore, the act makes a commonsense change to the Ski Area Permit Act by expanding permitted activities to include snow sports such as snowboarding. Snowboarding now accounts for roughly 1/3 of all ski area

visits, and the law should reflect the reality of current winter activities.

I am proud to bring this bill to the floor today with broad bi-partisan support. We have worked closely with the Forest Service to develop a piece of legislation that is amenable to all affected parties, and I urge my colleagues to support this sensible piece of legislation.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 765, "The Ski Area Recreational Opportunity Enhancement Act of 2011," which amends the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 to require the term and acreage of permits for the operation of ski areas and associated facilities on National Forest System lands to be governed by provisions under the Act relating to such permits and other applicable law. Furthermore, this legislation provides for the issuance of permits for the use and occupancy of suitable lands within the National Forest System for skiing and other snow sports and recreational uses authorized pursuant to this Act.

The Ski Area Recreational Opportunity Enhancement Act provides the American public with added ways to use and enjoy federally governed land. It is in a spirit of encouraging increased camaraderie, outdoor recreation and enjoyment of nature that I support providing an expanded opportunity for Americans to benefit from the natural resources in their own back yard. It is the responsibility of all Members of Congress to fulfill our moral obligation to promote harmony between Americans and the vast opportunities for outdoor recreation throughout the country. Additionally, this legislation serves to create revenue by allowing for additional permits, bolstering ski and winter recreation industries.

In the State of Texas, we have nearly 675,000 acres of public land that the U.S. Forest Service manages. This land is divided into four National Forests in east Texas and the National Grasslands in northeast Texas. Of the four National Forests, the 18th district is home to the Sam Houston National Forest. The Sam Houston National Forest consists of 161,508 acres with 47,609 acres in Montgomery County, 59,746 acres in San Jacinto County, and 54,153 acres in Walker County. The national forests in Texas were established by an act of the Texas legislature in 1933 that authorized the purchase of lands for the national forest system. These lands are operated under a Memorandum of Agreement with the U.S. Forest Service. Fishing, trapping, and public hunting of white-tailed deer, feral hog, waterfowl, dove, other migratory game birds, squirrel, quail, rabbits, hares, predators, furbearers, and frogs is permitted. Other outdoor recreation opportunities include camping, hiking, bicycling, and wildlife viewing.

In 1960, the Multiple Use-Sustained Yield Act codified into law the practices that had governed the management of national forests in Texas for 30 years. This act emphasized that resources on public lands would be managed so that they are used in the combination that will best meet the needs of the people, that the benefits obtained will exist indefinitely and that each natural resource would be managed in balance with other resources to meet present and future public needs.

Management plans outline direction for a forest under the multiple-use concept. However, even the most carefully planned system of management cannot foresee environmental or natural factors which can cause drastic

changes in a forest. Fire, storms, insects and disease, for example, can alter the way a forest is managed.

H.R. 765, "The Ski Area Recreational Opportunity Enhancement Act of 2011," provides for the issuance of permits for the use and occupancy of suitable lands within the National Forest System for skiing and other snow sports and recreational uses, highlighting the climate and recreational opportunities unique to specific regions of the nation. Since our nation's founding, we have marveled with immense pride at our vast natural resources, and this legislation serves to celebrate them.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 765.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

CLARIFYING INTERIOR DEPARTMENT JURISDICTION REGARDING CRAGIN PROJECT

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 489) to clarify the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior with respect to the C.C. Cragin Dam and Reservoir, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 489

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

SECTION 1. LAND WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION FOR CRAGIN PROJECT.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED LAND.—The term "covered land" means the parcel of land consisting of approximately 512 acres, as generally depicted on the Map, that consists of—

(A) approximately 300 feet of the crest of the Cragin Dam and associated spillway;

(B) the reservoir pool of the Cragin Dam that consists of approximately 250 acres defined by the high water mark; and

(C) the linear corridor.

(2) CRAGIN PROJECT.—The term "Cragin Project" means—

(A) the Cragin Dam and associated spillway;

(B) the reservoir pool of the Cragin Dam; and

(C) any pipelines, linear improvements, buildings, hydroelectric generating facilities, priming tanks, transmission, telephone, and fiber optic lines, pumps, machinery, tools, appliances, and other District or Bureau of Reclamation structures and facilities used for the Cragin Project.

(3) DISTRICT.—The term "District" means the Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District.

(4) LAND MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY.—The term "land management activity" includes, with respect to the covered land, the management of—

(A) recreation;

- (B) grazing;
- (C) wildland fire;
- (D) public conduct;
- (E) commercial activities that are not part of the Cragin Project;
- (F) cultural resources;
- (G) invasive species;
- (H) timber and hazardous fuels;
- (I) travel;
- (J) law enforcement; and
- (K) roads and trails.

(5) LINEAR CORRIDOR.—The term "linear corridor" means a corridor of land comprising approximately 262 acres—

(A) the width of which is approximately 200 feet;

(B) the length of which is approximately 11.5 miles;

(C) of which approximately 0.7 miles consists of an underground tunnel; and

(D) that is generally depicted on the Map.

(6) MAP.—The term "Map" means sheets 1 and 2 of the maps entitled "C.C. Cragin Project Withdrawal" and dated June 17, 2008.

(7) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service.

(b) WITHDRAWAL OF COVERED LAND.—Subject to valid existing rights, the covered land is permanently withdrawn from all forms of—

(1) entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws;

(2) location, entry, and patent under the mining laws; and

(3) disposition under all laws pertaining to mineral and geothermal leasing or mineral materials.

(c) MAP.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior, in coordination with the Secretary, shall prepare a map and legal description of the covered land.

(2) FORCE AND EFFECT.—The map and legal description prepared under paragraph (1) shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act, except that the Secretary of the Interior may correct clerical and typographical errors.

(3) AVAILABILITY.—The map and legal description prepared under paragraph (1) shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Forest Service and Bureau of Reclamation.

(d) JURISDICTION AND DUTIES.—

(1) JURISDICTION OF THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (e), the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation, shall have exclusive administrative jurisdiction to manage the Cragin Project in accordance with this Act and section 213(i) of the Arizona Water Settlements Act (Public Law 108-451; 118 Stat. 3533) on the covered land.

(B) INCLUSION.—Notwithstanding subsection (e), the jurisdiction under subparagraph (A) shall include access to the Cragin Project by the District.

(2) RESPONSIBILITY OF SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR AND DISTRICT.—In accordance with paragraphs (4)(B) and (5) of section 213(i) of the Arizona Water Settlements Act (Public Law 108-451; 118 Stat. 3533), the Secretary of the Interior and the District shall—

(A) ensure the compliance of each activity carried out at the Cragin Project with each applicable Federal environmental law (including regulations); and

(B) coordinate with appropriate Federal agencies in ensuring the compliance under subparagraph (A).

(e) LAND MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES ON COVERED LAND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall have administrative jurisdiction over land management activities on the covered land and other appropriate management activities pursuant to an agreement under paragraph (2) that do not conflict with, or adversely affect, the operation, maintenance, or replacement (including repair) of the Cragin Project, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior.

(2) INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT.—The Secretary and the Secretary of the Interior, in coordination with the District, may enter into an agreement under which the Secretary may—

(A) undertake any other appropriate management activity in accordance with applicable law that will improve the management and safety of the covered land and other land managed by the Secretary if the activity does not conflict with, or adversely affect, the operation, maintenance, or replacement (including repair) of the Cragin Project, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior; and

(B) carry out any emergency activities, such as fire suppression, on the covered land.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and also to include any extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 489 is sponsored by our colleague, Representative GOSAR of Arizona, and it seeks to resolve bureaucratic dysfunction and streamline regulatory processes for the purposes of creating jobs in northern Arizona.

This is a no-cost bill, and it eliminates duplicative permitting requirements—which we often, in this body, commonly refer to as ‘red tape’—by putting just one Federal agency in charge of the C.C. Cragin project’s pipeline, part of a Federal water project.

Prior to this bill, the Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Forest Service could not reconcile their responsibilities over who would actually manage the pipeline. These dueling regulatory requirements ultimately increased the costs that were passed on to the water consumers. They also created enough confusion to keep one community from going forward with a locally financed project that would have been connected to the Federal pipeline.

This bill clarifies these Federal management responsibilities, and it mirrors other permitting and approval precedents on similar Federal projects. It also creates a regulatory environment for that local water project—and the jobs that will go with it—to proceed.

I thank Congressman GOSAR for sponsoring this jobs bill, and I urge the adoption of this particular measure.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. SABLAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 489 would specify that the Bureau of Reclamation is authorized to approve necessary operation and maintenance activity for the C.C. Cragin project on National Forest System land.

H.R. 489 was introduced this Congress with language that reflects negotiations between the Bureau of Reclamation, the Forest Service, and the Salt River Project and the Congress. This legislation is not meant to serve as precedent for the management of utility corridors on Forest Service land. Instead, the legislation allows for the management of C.C. Cragin consistent with all the other Salt River Project facilities on Forest Service land where the Bureau of Reclamation oversees the operation and management of the facilities.

I have no requests for time, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, Phelps Dodge, just to give you some background of this particular legislation, is a large mining company that built what is now the Cragin project in the 1960s to supply water to its mine complex. Phelps Dodge transferred ownership of the project to the Salt River Project, that’s known as the SRP, after the former realized it was not necessary for mining operations. At the request of the SRP and with the support of Phelps Dodge and the Bureau of Reclamation, the Arizona Water Rights Settlement Act authorized transfer of the title of the project and the associated lands from SRP to Reclamation in 2005. Even though the Federal Government owns the project, SRP stills operates and maintains it pursuant to the 1917 contract between SRP and the United States.

The project consists of a number of facilities, including a 147-foot-high dam, a 15,000-acre-foot reservoir, a diversion tunnel and pump shaft, pumping plant, priming reservoir, a 10-mile-long pipeline, electrical transmission line, and a small generating plant which supplies power to the project’s pumping plant. The project helps SRP to supply water to the Phoenix metropolitan area and to the town of Payson and neighboring communities in northern Gila County.

Implementation of the title transfer under Public Law 108-45 has been controversial due to misunderstandings between the U.S. Forest Service, Reclamation, and SRP. The operation of the project is like that of all other Salt River Project-managed Reclamation facilities located on U.S. Forest Service lands. And for those projects, Rec-

lamation approves SRP’s work plan, their environmental compliance, and other regulatory permitting requirements associated with the project.

Mr. Speaker, that is some background to the issue and why this particular bill is there.

With that, it is my pleasure to now yield such time as he may consume to the sponsor of this legislation, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR).

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my legislation, H.R. 489, a bill that will permanently end the bureaucratic wrangling that has occurred between the Departments of Interior and Agriculture—a jurisdictional dispute that compromises the routine maintenance of critical water infrastructure in the State of Arizona, the C.C. Cragin Dam and Reservoir.

The Federal Government employs over 2.1 million civilian employees. There are hundreds of agencies, and within each agency there are divisions, departments, and subgroups. Sometimes, especially with respect to land management, more than one agency has jurisdiction; and when that occurs, bureaucratic disputes arise and government no longer serves the people.

□ 1620

This is the exact circumstance that has necessitated my legislation.

The C.C. Cragin project consists of a number of facilities, including a dam and reservoir, diversion tunnel and pump shaft, pumping plant, priming reservoir, pipeline, electrical transmission line, and a generating plant.

The majority of the project is located on Federal lands in the Coconino and Tonto National Forests. This critical water infrastructure project is an important aspect of the Salt River Project’s Federal Reclamation Project. It is integral to providing a water supply for Phoenix and is instrumental in making 3,500 acre-feet of water a year available to Gila County. The town of Payson and the neighboring communities rely on the pipeline to supply municipal drinking water to my constituents.

In 2004, at the request of the Salt River Project—or SRP as it is commonly referred to—and with the support of the Bureau of Reclamation and the former owner of the project, the Arizona Water Settlements Act authorized the title transfer of the C.C. Cragin project from SRP to the Bureau of Reclamation. Under this language, the Federal Government would own the project, but SRP would still operate and maintain it.

Once a transfer was implemented, it became clear that there was a disagreement between the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Reclamation over who had the responsibility for approving requested operation maintenance and repairs. Specifically, the Bureau of Reclamation argued that it should approve SRP’s work plans, environmental compliance, and other regulatory permitting requirements. The U.S. Forest

Service asserted that the reclamation was required to obtain a special use permit to operate, maintain, and repair the water project.

While the SRP project was able to overcome the issues with the Forest Service to complete repairs, it was with the Bureau of Reclamation's approval and occasionally over Forest Service objections. Concurrently, the added permit requirement delayed much needed repairs, wasting precious Arizona water resources, increased repair costs, and placed the economic development of the town of Payson at risk.

Looking forward, this is a long-lived asset that will be relied upon to provide reliable municipal water supply to Gila County and the valley. Just a few weeks ago, a \$34 million, 15-mile pipeline expansion project, which will double Payson's long-term, sustainable water supply, was finally approved by the Forest Service after a year-long delay. If Congress allows the jurisdictional dispute to continue, future operations and maintenance activities related to the C.C. Cragin project could face costly delays and could possibly interrupt water delivery to these Arizona communities.

This simply is not a tenable situation. I am pleased the House is taking up legislation that will permanently resolve this ridiculous jurisdictional battle.

My legislation reflects a compromise reached by the relevant parties. It grants the Department of the Interior exclusive jurisdiction to manage the C.C. Cragin project and grants the Department of Agriculture administrative jurisdiction over land management activities that do not conflict or adversely affect the operation, maintenance, replacement, or repair of the project.

It is important to note that H.R. 489 will still require compliance with all requirements under Federal law, including the National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA. In addition, the implementation of this legislation has no cost to the taxpayer.

Having a single agency overseeing the project remains important—if not more important now that the project is operational. The United States Bureau of Reclamation has the expertise to conduct oversight on water supply projects and does so on many of the projects that are within national forests. This commonsense legislation meets the needs of SRP and Reclamation to ensure the infrastructure can be maintained while accommodating the Forest Service, ensuring they continue to manage the lands underlying the utility corridor with respect to recreation, wildfire, law enforcement, and other activities consistent with its authorities, responsibilities, and expertise.

It is important to note that when the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power held a hearing on my bill on May 12, all par-

ties—including the Bureau of Reclamation and the Forest Service—agreed that H.R. 489 is vital to the long-term management of the C.C. Cragin dam and reservoir project and would bring about necessary economic certainty for the town of Payson and other impacted communities.

It is not often that Congress gets the opportunity to take up noncontroversial legislation like H.R. 489. I encourage my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 489.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### HELP TO ACCESS LAND FOR THE EDUCATION OF SCOUTS

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 473) to provide for the conveyance of approximately 140 acres of land in the Ouachita National Forest in Oklahoma to the Indian Nations Council, Inc., of the Boy Scouts of America, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 473

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

*This Act may be cited as the "Help to Access Land for the Education of Scouts" or "HALE Scouts Act".*

#### SEC. 2. LAND CONVEYANCE, OUACHITA NATIONAL FOREST, OKLAHOMA.

(a) *FINDING.*—Congress finds that it is in the public interest to provide for the sale of certain federally owned land in the Ouachita National Forest in Oklahoma to the Indian Nations Council, Inc., of the Boy Scouts of America, for market value consideration.

(b) *CONVEYANCE REQUIRED.*—Subject to valid existing rights, the Secretary of Agriculture shall convey, by quitclaim deed, to the Indian Nations Council, Inc., of the Boy Scouts of America (in this section referred to as the "Council") all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to certain National Forest System land in the Ouachita National Forest in the State of Oklahoma consisting of approximately 140 acres, depending on the final measurement of the road set back and the actual size of the affected sections, as more fully described in subsection (c). The conveyance may not include any land located within the Indian Nations National Scenic and Wildlife Area designated by section 10 of the Winding Stair Mountain National Recreation and Wilderness Area Act (16 U.S.C. 460vv–8).

(c) *COVERED LANDS.*—The National Forest System land to be conveyed under subsection (b) is depicted on the map entitled "Boy Scout Land Request—Ouachita NF". The map shall be

on file and available for public inspection in the Forest Service Regional Office in Atlanta, Georgia.

(d) *CONSIDERATION.*—As consideration for the land conveyed under subsection (b), the Council shall pay to the Secretary an amount equal to the fair market value of the land, as determined by an appraisal approved by the Secretary and done in conformity with the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions and section 206 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1716).

(e) *SURVEY AND ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.*—The exact acreage and legal description of the land to be conveyed under subsection (b) shall be determined by a survey satisfactory to the Secretary. The Council shall pay the reasonable costs of survey, appraisal, and any administrative analyses required by law.

(f) *ACCESS.*—Access to the land conveyed under subsection (b) shall be from the adjacent land of the Council or its successor. Notwithstanding section 1323(a) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 3210(a)), the Secretary shall not be required to provide additional access to the conveyed land.

(g) *ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.*—The Secretary may prescribe such terms and conditions on the conveyance under subsection (b) as the Secretary considers in the public interest, including the reservation of access rights to the conveyed land for administrative purposes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

If I spend less time speaking about this particular bill, it's not my commitment to this particular bill, only the gentleman from Oklahoma seems to be here already.

H.R. 473 was introduced by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. BOREN). It would authorize the Forest Service to sell 143 acres of the Ouachita National Forest to the Camp Hale Boy Scout camp, which is just under 500 acres adjacent to those Federal lands. The additional acreage will allow the Boy Scouts to accommodate more campers and allow for a larger array of activities at the camp. The legislation stipulates that the acres will be appraised and sold at market value. The Boy Scouts will pay for the appraisal as well as the survey and the administrative costs.

This legislation is a commonsense solution to allow for an expansion of the camp and better accommodations for the Boy Scouts of America.

I urge adoption of this brilliant piece of legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SABLAN. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. SABLAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, this legislation will allow the Indian Nation's Council of the Boy Scouts to expand a very popular adventure camp in Oklahoma. The Scouts would pay fair market value for an additional 140 acres of Forest Service land to be added to the existing camp.

Mr. Speaker, the Boy Scouts are a beloved organization dedicated to education and public service. The sale of this parcel to the Scouts is a good use of public lands, and we support the legislation.

I would also like to acknowledge that my good friend, Mr. BOREN, has been a tireless champion for this bill and for the Boy Scouts and is to be commended for his work over several years on behalf of this proposal.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 473.

I yield the balance of my time to the good gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. BOREN).

Mr. BOREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge passage of H.R. 473, the HALE Scouts Act. This bill grants the U.S. Forest Service the authority to sell roughly 140 acres of land to the Indian Nation's Council of Boy Scouts. The land for conveyance is adjacent to the Scouts' summer camp, Camp Tom Hale, located in Talihina, Oklahoma.

The Indian Nation's Council of Boy Scouts is a nonprofit organization, providing educational programs for boys and young adults to build character, to train in the responsibilities of citizenship, and to develop personal fitness.

Camp Tom Hale first opened in June 1930 to serve Boy Scouts in McAlester, Oklahoma. It was originally located in what is now Robbers Cave State Park near Wilburton, Oklahoma. In 1963, the Boy Scout Council in McAlester worked with the State of Oklahoma and the U.S. Forest Service to exchange the camp at Robbers Cave for 480 acres of wilderness area in the Ouachita National Forest. This "new" Camp Hale has continued as a summer adventure camp, serving thousands of Scouts during the intervening 41 years.

In 1997, the council board developed a strategic plan for a \$3.5 million expansion and renovation of the camp. Since then, the council has spent in excess of \$1 million continually updating and expanding facilities to meet the needs of scouts. As a result, a renewed emphasis on wilderness and outdoors has flourished, with over 6,000 scouts and leaders from a five-State area attending weekly sessions offered in June and July and enjoying the beautiful Ouachita Forest.

□ 1630

Attendance has now exceeded the maximum number of available campsites and program areas, which is causing Camp Hale to begin turning away

hundreds of scouts each summer. It is now critical for camp growth that the boundaries be extended to include more area for camping and additional program and training services.

Successful completion of this objective will allow the Boy Scouts to continue the expansion of outdoor and leadership training for thousands of youths living in the central Southwest and bring additional usage and enjoyment of the Ouachita Forest for more families.

I want to emphasize that the Boy Scouts will pay fair market value, as was mentioned before, for this land, so that this bill will actually bring money to the U.S. Government.

It is for the benefit of these thousands of young men across a five-State area that I proudly sponsored this measure. I greatly appreciate the House's consideration of the bill and would like to urge my colleagues to support this bill, this legislation. I can think of no greater thing that we can do than to invest in our young people. And how can you be against the Boy Scouts?

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, to be honest, I had some doubts about this piece of legislation. But after the eloquence of the gentleman from Oklahoma, he has removed any doubts as to the viability of this piece of legislation. It's obviously a brilliant bill and will be a capstone to his career.

I urge its adoption, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I associate myself also with my good friend Mr. BISHOP. How can anyone be against the Boy Scouts?

I ask my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 473, "Help to Access Land for the Education of Scouts Act," which requires the conveyance of specified National Forest System land in the Ouachita National Forest in Oklahoma to the Indian Nations Council, Inc., of the Boy Scouts of America. This legislation is appropriate and necessary for the continuation of the very principles that Boy Scouts of America stands for.

Currently, the Indian Nations Council serves more than 28,000 youth and 5,500 adult volunteers throughout 18 counties in eastern Oklahoma. Over the past century, the Council has positively impacted hundreds of thousands of Scouts and their families. However, due to the increased growth of the scouting program in Eastern Oklahoma, attendance at Camp Tom Hale has surpassed the maximum number of available campsites and program capacity. In turn, the organization has been forced to turn away many scouts and their families. There is a critical need to serve more scouts. However, more land is needed to ensure the quality of camping and experience for the scouts. Boundaries need to be extended to help accommodate more scouts, and to maximize their camp experience.

Boy Scouts of America is a prominent values-based organization that has helped to

mold young boys into model citizens, while simultaneously building character and promoting physical fitness. I do not feel that anyone, or the lack of sufficient land should deprive more of our youth from taking full advantage of all of the possibilities that Boy Scouts of America, specifically, the Indian Nations Council provides. I believe it is the responsibility of myself, as well as my colleagues, to ensure that we do everything in our ability to ensure that we pass H.R. 473 so that we can aid our young men in their development.

If passed, H.R. 473 will allow the Indian Nations Council to purchase an additional 140 acres of U.S. Forest Service land immediately adjacent to the existing Camp Tom Hale facility. To add to this, the Indian Nations Council can expect to have more scouts participate in their summer camps, without the burden of having to turn eager scouts away.

H.R. 473 can benefit the overall well being of the public by providing the Indian Nations Council of Boy Scouts of America with the adequate and necessary space needed to accommodate the growing number of scouts. It is essential that we pass H.R. 473 because organizations such as Boy Scouts of America are the driving force behind the leaders of tomorrow. By providing these young men, as well as their adult leaders with the proper space they need, we will simultaneously provide our youth with a place where they can live up to the morals and standards of the organization's mission.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 473, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages in writing from the President of the United States were communicated to the House by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

#### HOOVER POWER ALLOCATION ACT OF 2011

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 470) to further allocate and expand the availability of hydroelectric power generated at Hoover Dam, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 470

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2011".

#### SEC. 2. ALLOCATION OF CONTRACTS FOR POWER.

(a) SCHEDULE A POWER.—Section 105(a)(1)(A) of the Hoover Power Plant Act of 1984 (43 U.S.C. 619a(a)(1)(A)) is amended—

- (1) by striking "renewal";
- (2) by striking "June 1, 1987" and inserting "October 1, 2017"; and
- (3) by striking Schedule A and inserting the following:



“Schedule A Long-term Schedule A contingent capacity and associated firm energy for offers of contracts to Boulder Canyon project contractors

Contractor	Contingent capacity (kW)	Firm energy (thousands of kWh)		
		Summer	Winter	Total
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California .....	249,948	859,163	368,212	1,227,375
City of Los Angeles .....	495,732	464,108	199,175	663,283
Southern California Edison Company .....	280,245	166,712	71,448	238,160
City of Glendale .....	18,178	45,028	19,297	64,325
City of Pasadena .....	11,108	38,622	16,553	55,175
City of Burbank .....	5,176	14,070	6,030	20,100
Arizona Power Authority .....	190,869	429,582	184,107	613,689
Colorado River Commission of Nevada .....	190,869	429,582	184,107	613,689
United States, for Boulder City .....	20,198	53,200	22,800	76,000
Totals .....	1,462,323	2,500,067	1,071,729	3,571,796

(b) SCHEDULE B POWER.—Section 105(a)(1)(B) of the Hoover Power Plant Act of 1984 (43 U.S.C. 619a(a)(1)(B)) is amended to read as follows: “(B) To each existing contractor for power generated at Hoover Dam, a contract, for delivery commencing October 1, 2017, of the amount of contingent capacity and firm energy specified for that contractor in the following table:

“Schedule B Long-term Schedule B contingent capacity and associated firm energy for offers of contracts to Boulder Canyon project contractors

Contractor	Contingent capacity (kW)	Firm energy (thousands of kWh)		
		Summer	Winter	Total
City of Glendale .....	2,020	2,749	1,194	3,943
City of Pasadena .....	9,089	2,399	1,041	3,440
City of Burbank .....	15,149	3,604	1,566	5,170
City of Anaheim .....	40,396	34,442	14,958	49,400
City of Azusa .....	4,039	3,312	1,438	4,750
City of Banning .....	2,020	1,324	576	1,900
City of Colton .....	3,030	2,650	1,150	3,800
City of Riverside .....	30,296	25,831	11,219	37,050
City of Vernon .....	22,218	18,546	8,054	26,600
Arizona .....	189,860	140,600	60,800	201,400
Nevada .....	189,860	273,600	117,800	391,400
Totals .....	507,977	509,057	219,796	728,853

(c) SCHEDULE C POWER.—Section 105(a)(1)(C) of the Hoover Power Plant Act of 1984 (43 U.S.C. 619a(a)(1)(C)) is amended— (1) by striking “June 1, 1987” and inserting “October 1, 2017”; and (2) by striking Schedule C and inserting the following:

“Schedule C Excess Energy

Priority of entitlement to excess energy	State
First: Meeting Arizona’s first priority right to delivery of excess energy which is equal in each year of operation to 200 million kilowatthours: Provided, That in the event excess energy in the amount of 200 million kilowatthours is not generated during any year of operation, Arizona shall accumulate a first right to delivery of excess energy subsequently generated in an amount not to exceed 600 million kilowatthours, inclusive of the current year’s 200 million kilowatthours. Said first right of delivery shall accrue at a rate of 200 million kilowatthours per year for each year excess energy in an amount of 200 million kilowatthours is not generated, less amounts of excess energy delivered. ....	Arizona
Second: Meeting Hoover Dam contractual obligations under Schedule A of subsection (a)(1)(A), under Schedule B of subsection (a)(1)(B), and under Schedule D of subsection (a)(2), not exceeding 26 million kilowatthours in each year of operation. ....	Arizona, Nevada, and California
Third: Meeting the energy requirements of the three States, such available excess energy to be divided equally among the States. ....	Arizona, Nevada, and California”.

(d) SCHEDULE D POWER.—Section 105(a) of the Hoover Power Plant Act of 1984 (43 U.S.C. 619a(a)) is amended— (1) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) as paragraphs (3), (4), and (5), respectively; and (2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following: “(2)(A) The Secretary of Energy is authorized to and shall create from the apportioned allocation of contingent capacity and firm energy adjusted from the amounts authorized in this Act in 1984 to the amounts shown in Schedule A and Schedule B, as modified by the Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2011, a resource pool equal to 5 percent of the full rated capacity of 2,074,000 kilowatts, and associated firm energy, as shown in Schedule D (referred to in this section as ‘Schedule D contingent capacity and firm energy’):

“Schedule D Long-term Schedule D resource pool of contingent capacity and associated firm energy for new allottees

State	Contingent capacity (kW)	Firm energy (thousands of kWh)		
		Summer	Winter	Total
New Entities Allocated by the Secretary of Energy .....	69,170	105,637	45,376	151,013
New Entities Allocated by State				
Arizona .....	11,510	17,580	7,533	25,113
California .....	11,510	17,580	7,533	25,113
Nevada .....	11,510	17,580	7,533	25,113
Totals .....	103,700	158,377	67,975	226,352

“(B) The Secretary of Energy shall offer Schedule D contingency capacity and firm energy to entities not receiving contingent capacity and firm energy under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1) (referred to in this section as ‘new allottees’) for delivery commencing October 1, 2017 pursuant to this subsection. In this subsection, the term ‘the marketing area for the Boulder City Area Projects’ shall have the same meaning as in appendix A of the General Consolidated Power Marketing Criteria or Regulations for Boulder City Area Projects published in the Federal Register on December 28, 1984 (49 Federal Register 50582 et seq.) (referred to in this section as the ‘Criteria’).”

“(C)(i) Within 36 months of the date of enactment of the Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2011, the Secretary of Energy shall allocate through the Western Area Power Administration (referred to in this section as ‘Western’), for delivery commencing October 1, 2017, for use in the marketing area for the Boulder City Area Projects 66.7 percent of the Schedule D contingent capacity and firm energy to new allottees that are located within the marketing area for the Boulder City Area Projects and that are—

“(I) eligible to enter into contracts under section 5 of the Boulder Canyon Project Act (43 U.S.C. 617d); or

“(II) federally recognized Indian tribes.

“(ii) In the case of Arizona and Nevada, Schedule D contingent capacity and firm energy for new allottees other than federally recognized Indian tribes shall be offered through the Arizona Power Authority and the Colorado River Commission of Nevada, respectively. Schedule D contingent capacity and firm energy allocated to federally recognized Indian tribes shall be contracted for directly with Western.

“(D) Within 1 year of the date of enactment of the Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2011, the Secretary of Energy also shall allocate, for delivery commencing October 1, 2017, for use in the marketing area for the Boulder City Area Projects 11.1 percent of the Schedule D contingent capacity and firm energy to each of—

“(i) the Arizona Power Authority for allocation to new allottees in the State of Arizona;

“(ii) the Colorado River Commission of Nevada for allocation to new allottees in the State of Nevada; and

“(iii) Western for allocation to new allottees within the State of California, provided that Western shall have 36 months to complete such allocation.

“(E) Each contract offered pursuant to this subsection shall include a provision requiring the new allottee to pay a proportionate share of its State’s respective contribution (determined in accordance with each State’s applicable funding agreement) to the cost of the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program (as defined in section 9401 of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–11; 123 Stat. 1327)), and to execute the Boulder Canyon Project Implementation Agreement Contract

No. 95–PAO–10616 (referred to in this section as the ‘Implementation Agreement’).

“(F) Any of the 66.7 percent of Schedule D contingent capacity and firm energy that is to be allocated by Western that is not allocated and placed under contract by October 1, 2017, shall be returned to those contractors shown in Schedule A and Schedule B in the same proportion as those contractors’ allocations of Schedule A and Schedule B contingent capacity and firm energy. Any of the 33.3 percent of Schedule D contingent capacity and firm energy that is to be distributed within the States of Arizona, Nevada, and California that is not allocated and placed under contract by October 1, 2017, shall be returned to the Schedule A and Schedule B contractors within the State in which the Schedule D contingent capacity and firm energy were to be distributed, in the same proportion as those contractors’ allocations of Schedule A and Schedule B contingent capacity and firm energy.”

(e) TOTAL OBLIGATIONS.—Paragraph (3) of section 105(a) of the Hoover Power Plant Act of 1984 (43 U.S.C. 619a(a)) (as redesignated as subsection (d)(1)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking “schedule A of section 105(a)(1)(A) and schedule B of section 105(a)(1)(B)” and inserting “paragraphs (1)(A), (1)(B), and (2)”; and

(2) in the second sentence—

(A) by striking “any” each place it appears and inserting “each”; and

(B) by striking “schedule C” and inserting “Schedule C”; and

(C) by striking “schedules A and B” and inserting “Schedules A, B, and D”.

(f) POWER MARKETING CRITERIA.—Paragraph (4) of section 105(a) of the Hoover Power Plant Act of 1984 (43 U.S.C. 619a(a)) (as redesignated as subsection (d)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

“(4) Subdivision C of the Criteria shall be deemed to have been modified to conform to this section, as modified by the Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2011. The Secretary of Energy shall cause to be included in the Federal Register a notice conforming the text of the regulations to such modifications.”

(g) CONTRACT TERMS.—Paragraph (5) of section 105(a) of the Hoover Power Plant Act of 1984 (43 U.S.C. 619a(a)) (as redesignated as subsection (d)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

“(A) in accordance with section 5(a) of the Boulder Canyon Project Act (43 U.S.C. 617d(a)), expire September 30, 2067;”

(2) in the proviso of subparagraph (B)—

(A) by striking “shall use” and inserting “shall allocate”; and

(B) by striking “and” after the semicolon at the end;

(3) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) authorize and require Western to collect from new allottees a pro rata share of Hoover Dam repayable advances paid for by

contractors prior to October 1, 2017, and remit such amounts to the contractors that paid such advances in proportion to the amounts paid by such contractors as specified in section 6.4 of the Implementation Agreement;

“(E) permit transactions with an independent system operator; and

“(F) contain the same material terms included in section 5.6 of those long-term contracts for purchases from the Hoover Power Plant that were made in accordance with this Act and are in existence on the date of enactment of the Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2011.”

(h) EXISTING RIGHTS.—Section 105(b) of the Hoover Power Plant Act of 1984 (43 U.S.C. 619a(b)) is amended by striking “2017” and inserting “2067”.

(i) OFFERS.—Section 105(c) of the Hoover Power Plant Act of 1984 (43 U.S.C. 619a(c)) is amended to read as follows:

“(c) OFFER OF CONTRACT TO OTHER ENTITIES.—If any existing contractor fails to accept an offered contract, the Secretary of Energy shall offer the contingent capacity and firm energy thus available first to other entities in the same State listed in Schedule A and Schedule B, second to other entities listed in Schedule A and Schedule B, third to other entities in the same State which receive contingent capacity and firm energy under subsection (a)(2) of this section, and last to other entities which receive contingent capacity and firm energy under subsection (a)(2) of this section.”

(j) AVAILABILITY OF WATER.—Section 105(d) of the Hoover Power Plant Act of 1984 (43 U.S.C. 619a(d)) is amended to read as follows:

“(d) WATER AVAILABILITY.—Except with respect to energy purchased at the request of an allottee pursuant to subsection (a)(3), the obligation of the Secretary of Energy to deliver contingent capacity and firm energy pursuant to contracts entered into pursuant to this section shall be subject to availability of the water needed to produce such contingent capacity and firm energy. In the event that water is not available to produce the contingent capacity and firm energy set forth in Schedule A, Schedule B, and Schedule D, the Secretary of Energy shall adjust the contingent capacity and firm energy offered under those Schedules in the same proportion as those contractors’ allocations of Schedule A, Schedule B, and Schedule D contingent capacity and firm energy bears to the full rated contingent capacity and firm energy obligations.”

(k) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 105 of the Hoover Power Plant Act of 1984 (43 U.S.C. 619a) is amended—

(1) by striking subsections (e) and (f); and

(2) by redesignating subsections (g), (h), and (i) as subsections (e), (f), and (g), respectively.

(1) CONTINUED CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT.—Subsection (e) of section 105 of the Hoover Power Plant Act of 1984 (43 U.S.C. 619a) (as redesignated by subsection (k)(2)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking “the renewal of”; and

(2) in the second sentence, by striking “June 1, 1987, and ending September 30, 2017” and inserting “October 1, 2017, and ending September 30, 2067”.

(m) COURT CHALLENGES.—Subsection (f)(1) of section 105 of the Hoover Power Plant Act of 1984 (43 U.S.C. 619a) (as redesignated by subsection (k)(2)) is amended in the first sentence by striking “this Act” and inserting “the Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2011”.

(n) REAFFIRMATION OF CONGRESSIONAL DECLARATION OF PURPOSE.—Subsection (g) of section 105 of the Hoover Power Plant Act of 1984 (43 U.S.C. 619a) (as redesignated by subsection (k)(2)) is amended—

(1) by striking “subsections (c), (g), and (h) of this section” and inserting “this Act”; and

(2) by striking “June 1, 1987, and ending September 30, 2017” and inserting “October 1, 2017, and ending September 30, 2067”.

### SEC. 3. PAYGO.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentleman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I wish to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HECK), who is the sponsor of this bill, to introduce this particular piece of legislation, which does so much for the West and recognizes the importance of hydroelectric power for those of us who live in the West.

Mr. HECK. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 470, the Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2011.

This issue is very important to my home State of Nevada and the more than 29 million residents across Nevada, Arizona, and California that benefit from Hoover power.

The Hoover Dam is located in my district, and Hoover power has been critical to southern Nevada's economy, businesses, and consumers since the dam first started operating in 1936.

Hoover power is clean and affordable, and today we are taking an important step toward making it stable. The Hoover power contracts are due to expire in 2017, and H.R. 470 would authorize the continued allocation of electricity from the Hoover Dam for the next 50 years, until 2067.

Extending Nevada's access to low-cost, clean hydropower through the enactment of H.R. 470 is key to Nevada's

economic recovery because it will help create certainty over future electricity prices, and certainty is exactly what our economy needs right now in order to get people back to work.

H.R. 470 was developed as a consensus, bipartisan plan to ensure the continued availability and reliability of Hoover power to the citizens of Nevada, California, and Arizona. Hoover contractors who participated in developing this plan have invested more than \$1.3 billion to construct, operate, and maintain Hoover Dam in the past. They agreed to contribute 5 percent of their post-2017 Hoover power allocations to form a 100-megawatt resource pool that will be made available to customers such as tribes, irrigation districts, and rural cooperatives that did not have access to this power in the past.

H.R. 470 provides that this resource pool will be allocated by a Federal-State partnership involving the Western Area Power Administration and the States of Nevada, California, and Arizona.

Now, I understand that some Arizona cooperatives have expressed concerns over this bill because they are unhappy with Arizona's power allocation priority list. But this bill actually sets aside additional power for other entities, including cooperatives, thereby increasing the likelihood of a power allocation, and this Federal legislation should not be used to usurp the authority of the State of Arizona.

Again, this legislation is essential to the millions of consumers who have invested in this renewable source of energy over the past 75 years because it will continue to provide them with Hoover power for the next 50 years, as well as allow new customers to benefit from this clean, low-cost energy source.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 470, the Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2011.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mrs. NAPOLITANO asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. I thank Congressman BISHOP, Congressman SABLAN, but especially Congressman HASTINGS and our staff for working on this bill.

I rise in support of H.R. 470, the Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2011, as amended. And I agree with my colleague, I agree with his remarks. Hydropower is a very valuable resource for our country. The power produced at Hoover provides a renewable, very affordable and accessible resource to the American Southwest, more specifically the States of California, my State, Nevada, and Arizona, and has 30 million residents, businesses, farms, and tribes that benefit from its renewable power.

A new provision in the legislation, which my colleague talked about, would create an additional Schedule D, where power will be made available to eligible tribes and other users. And I'm

hoping that those eligible users are mostly tribes because they've been kept out of the loop for many generations, and I think it's time that we put them up in the priority status, rather than at the end of the line as normally happens.

Western Area Power Administration has committed to implementing a full and transparent process in the allocation of this valuable resource. And we do expect that the State regulatory agencies of Arizona and Nevada both will follow the same procedures and commitment to an impartial and unbiased allocation determination.

The 50-year timeframe for allocation of this resource also matches the commitment by collaborators to fund the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program, a nationally recognized example of how diverse stakeholders can find solutions, working together, that promote economic growth while protecting more than 100 species, including some endangered species that everybody wants to do away with, all within the Lower Colorado floodplain, and this is without litigation.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation has 34 bipartisan cosponsors. This exact same bill, H.R. 4349, which I was the lead sponsor of, as was Senator REID in the Senate, passed the House in the 111th Congress, and I ask my colleagues now to again not only support but vote for the passage of H.R. 470.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I wish to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR).

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 470, the Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2011. Hoover power is a vital power resource for the consumers in the States of Arizona, California, and Nevada, as well as over 29 million people who rely on this clean renewable source of energy.

□ 1640

Hydroelectric power from the Hoover Dam was first allocated by Congress in 1928 and has been allocated by Congress ever since. The current power contracts expire in 2017. It is important this body pass a new allocation now to ensure the continued availability and reliability of Hoover power to the citizens of my State and those of California and Nevada.

The version of this legislation that this body is considering today reflects years of thorough negotiation. It includes provisions that address issues that were raised in the 111th Congress by the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona and the Western Area Power Administration. Because of that, the bill has garnered strong bipartisan support within the Arizona House delegation and at the grassroots level.

I would like to address the concerns expressed by the Arizona Statewide Cooperatives Association. I personally

met with the representatives of the association in an attempt to address their concerns. In those meetings, it became clear the only way to address their concerns would be to overturn existing Arizona State law. I encouraged them to take their charge to the State level and committed to help facilitate the initial meeting if they so desired. However, I have consistently maintained that it would be inappropriate for Congress to incorporate language that would preempt Arizona State law in this legislation.

I would also like to point out that the Arizona co-ops have an opportunity under this legislation to receive Hoover power going forward. H.R. 470 creates a pool of 103 megawatts that will be allocated to eligible entities, including rural electric cooperatives and federally recognized Native American tribes. In addition, the Salt River Project has committed, in writing, to backstop up to three megawatts of power for the Arizona co-ops should they not receive an allocation through this specific provision.

Let me remind my colleagues that 22 percent of the population in my district is tribal. This would be a wonderful means of having a vested interest and would also diversify the portfolios of the tribes in the energy sector.

Again, I rise in support of my friend Dr. HECK's legislation, H.R. 470, and encourage my colleagues to vote "yes."

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask for passage of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, this once again is a very good bill that is before us. The fact is that the Hoover Dam in Nevada produces more than 2,000 megawatts, which is enough to power 2 million households, of clean electricity and captures more than 28 million acre feet of water for the States of Arizona, Nevada, and California.

In the more than 75 years since this engineering marvel was completed, Hoover Dam still plays a key role in fulfilling its economic, job-creation mission. This bill simply extends part of that mission, and it's all paid for by the electricity ratepayers. Their rates will cover all capital, all operating, all maintenance and other costs associated with the power component of the Hoover Dam. There is no taxpayer cost to this bill.

I want to thank Congressman HECK for bringing this bill forward, I also want to thank Congresswoman NAPOLITANO for her good work on this bill, and I would encourage my colleagues to support this no-cost, job-supporting legislation.

I urge adoption of this measure, and with that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my strong support for H.R. 470, a bill for the allocation of power from the Hoover dam.

I thank my colleague from Nevada, Representative HECK, for sponsoring this important resolution.

I support this bill because it will ensure that many small communities in Southern California, including the community of Colton in my district, have access to cost effective power that is provided by a renewable resource.

Close to 4,000 homes in Colton are powered by the Hoover dam. The Hoover dam is one of our nation's greatest feats of engineering. It is a symbol of American ingenuity, and representative of the success that the Roosevelt administration had in putting our nation back to work during the Great Depression.

In a time when our country struggles with its dependence on foreign oil, the Hoover dam and the power that it provides shines as a beacon of what we are capable of in harnessing renewable energy. I commend the men who generations ago built this engineering marvel, and thank those today who maintain it for our benefit.

I urge my colleagues to vote yes on H.R. 470—and ask that they ensure the lights will stay on for millions of families in California, Arizona, and Nevada.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 470 "Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2011," which Amends the Hoover Power Plant Act of 1984 to modify, commencing October 1, 2017, certain statutory schedules governing contracts for delivery to specified localities in Arizona, California, and Nevada of hydroelectric power generated at Hoover Dam. The Hoover dam represents hope and prosperity that is possible if we, as legislators, do our job well. To many the Hoover Dam represents hope, and with this bill we can ensure good management of this facility into the future and hopefully create more jobs!

In the depths of the Great Depression, when like today a slow economy and high rate of unemployment caused great strife in the lives of American citizens, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt showed enormous leadership in launching the Hoover Dam project. Instead of abiding by the general wisdom of the era, that isolationism and fiscal austerity would insure the quickest economic recovery, FDR chose to use government resources to help those who were suffering the most. Through public works programs like this one, the President was able to put a massive amount of Americans back to work and construct some of this country's most impressive and meaningful structures. After construction began in 1931, it took only five years to complete, finishing two years ahead of schedule. The initiative and perseverance shown by the American workers, many of whom gave their lives to the dam, exemplifies the American spirit at its best. When people have a reason to believe in their government, they will respond accordingly in their own lives. Now it is our turn: we must ensure effective management of the dam's power production into the future.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 470, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### CONVEYING SUBMERGED LANDS TO NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 670) to convey certain submerged lands to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in order to give that territory the same benefits in its submerged lands as Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa have in their submerged lands.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 670

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN SUBMERGED LANDS TO THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The first section of Public Law 93-435 (48 U.S.C. 1705) is amended by inserting "the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands," after "Guam," each place it appears.

(b) REFERENCES TO DATE OF ENACTMENT.—For the purposes of the amendment made by subsection (a), each reference in Public Law 93-435 (48 U.S.C. 1705) to the "date of enactment" shall be considered to be a reference to the date of the enactment of this section.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

It is my pleasure to be here on this particular bill, H.R. 670. It conveys, as was mentioned in the title, 3 miles of submerged lands to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. This authority will give the Pacific territory similar authority and benefits as are currently enjoyed by many coastal States and other U.S. territories, specifically Guam, the Virgin Islands and American Samoa.

The last Congress passed similar legislation out of the House by a rollcall vote of 416-0, and I hope we can beat that record today. I am pleased to have been able to work on this, and I thank the gentleman from the Northern Marianas (Mr. SABLAN) for actually presenting this particular bill to us. It is a good piece of legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

(Mr. SABLAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 670, a bill that conveys to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands the 3 miles of submerged lands surrounding each of our islands. I want to thank the leaders from both sides of the aisle, particularly Chairman HASTINGS and Ranking Member MARKEY of the Natural Resources Committee, and my very good friend, Dr. JOHN FLEMING, chairman of the Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and In-sular Affairs Subcommittee, for their support of H.R. 670.

I would like to note, also, that the language of H.R. 670 previously, as my good friend has noted, passed the House in the 111th Congress by a vote of 416-0. As we know sometimes happens, however, though favorably reported from its committee of jurisdiction, the other body took no final action. So I hope that Members of this House will join me today in making a second effort to get this bill enacted into law.

The Northern Mariana Islands is the only United States coastal jurisdiction that does not have ownership of the submerged lands off its coasts. H.R. 670 corrects that irregularity and provides the same ownership rights over the submerged lands surrounding the Northern Marianas as are provided by Federal law to Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and American Samoa.

This bill provides equity to the people of the Northern Marianas. It returns management of these near-shore lands and waters to those who know them best and need them to be well-managed. It gives the people of the Marianas, who have such limited land resources, the power to protect and to benefit from the seas around our 14 islands.

To highlight the importance of this point, in 2006, Louisiana leased 392,118 acres of its submerged lands for oyster harvest, profiting the State and providing an economic opportunity for holders of 8,167 leases. Likewise, the State of California leases tracts off its submerged lands for oil and gas extraction, creating jobs and contributing to the State's economy. Other coastal jurisdictions have similar stories to tell about the important role that coastal lands and waters can play in economic growth.

For the area I represent, which has suffered declining GDP year after year since 2004 and a 20 percent drop in 2009, gaining control of surrounding submerged lands could help to turn things around. Whereas now the Federal Government is in charge and does nothing with the potential of these lands, H.R. 670 would put the local government in charge. We would be free to develop offshore wind farms or other energy alternatives and be responsible for protecting the rare marine environment, which is both our legacy and our trust, and also makes our islands alluring to tourists.

What H.R. 670 does for the Northern Marianas is what this Congress previously has done for other U.S. coastal

jurisdictions. In the 1941 case of *U.S. v. California*, the Federal courts found that the Federal Government owned the submerged lands off the shores of California and other coastal States. These States then turned to Congress to regain control of their submerged lands, and Congress granted these States title to the waters and submerged lands out to 3 miles in the Submerged Lands Act of 1953.

□ 1650

History repeats itself here.

In 2005, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the submerged lands and waters off our coastline did not belong to the people of the Northern Marianas—despite that we had fished and sailed there for at least 3,500 years. The Ninth Circuit did recognize, however, that Congress had the power to convey the submerged lands to the Marianas. H.R. 670 does exactly that. H.R. 670 employs the constitutional authority of this Congress to dispose of Federal property, the same authority that Congress used to convey offshore lands to Guam, the United States Virgin Islands, and American Samoa under the Territorial Submerged Lands Act of 1974.

Finally, let me say there is great support for this legislation among the people of the Northern Mariana Islands, so much so that when I was sworn in as the first Representative of the Northern Mariana Islands in the House of Representatives, this was my first bill. The Governor of the Northern Marianas has expressed his support. The Northern Marianas Legislature has passed a resolution in favor of a return to local management. In addition, the Obama administration has expressed its support for the conveyance of submerged lands to the people of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This House, too, as I said at the beginning, has given overwhelming support to the language of this bill, which passed the House unanimously on July 15, 2009.

Once again, I ask for your support. H.R. 670 costs nothing. Congress has the constitutional authority to enact this bill. It will provide equity—the same ownership and responsibility for surrounding lands and waters that every other coastal area of our Nation enjoys.

I want to thank all of those Members who are cosponsors of this bill, and I ask that my colleagues support H.R. 670.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of this particular resolution.

I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 670, "To convey certain submerged lands to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in order to give that territory the same benefits in its submerged lands as Guam, the Virgin Is-

lands, and American Samoa have in their submerged lands" conveys to the government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands submerged lands surrounding such islands and extending three geographical miles outward from their coastlines.

The Act provides the American public, more specifically the occupants of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, with added ways to use and enjoy land surrounding their coastlines. It is in a spirit of encouraging the most beneficial use of natural resources that I support the idea of providing an expanded use of otherwise unused land to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. It is the responsibility of all Members of Congress to fulfill our moral obligation to promote harmony between Americans and their natural resources.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 670, to convey certain submerged lands to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in order to give that territory the same benefits in its submerged lands as Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa have in their submerged lands.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 670.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

#### AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL ROTUNDA FOR CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL CEREMONY

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 29) authorizing the use of the rotunda of the United States Capitol for an event to present the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to Neil A. Armstrong, Edwin E. "Buzz" Aldrin, Jr., Michael Collins, and John Herschel Glenn, Jr., in recognition of their significant contributions to society.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

S. CON. RES. 29

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),*

#### SECTION 1. USE OF THE ROTUNDA OF THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL TO PRESENT THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—The rotunda of the United States Capitol is authorized to be used on November 16, 2011 for the presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to Neil A. Armstrong, Edwin E. "Buzz" Aldrin, Jr., Michael Collins, and John Herschel Glenn, Jr., in recognition of their significant contributions to society.

(b) PREPARATIONS.—Physical preparations for the conduct of the event described in subsection (a) shall be carried out in accordance

with such conditions as may be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. HARPER) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi?

There was no objection.

Mr. HARPER. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This resolution authorizes the use of the rotunda on November 16 to present the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to Neil A. Armstrong, Edwin E. "Buzz" Aldrin, Jr., Michael Collins, and John Herschel Glenn, Jr., in recognition of their significant contributions to society.

Mr. Speaker, on May 25, 1961, President Kennedy spoke to a joint session of Congress. He said that it was time for a "great new American enterprise—time for this Nation to take a clearly leading role in space achievement." He committed this Nation to achieving the ambitious goal of landing a man on the Moon and returning him to Earth safely.

President Kennedy added, "I believe we possess all the resources and talents necessary" to accomplish the mission—and that we did as exhibited by the gentlemen to be honored in the rotunda this November.

Bravely pursuing the unknown, these four individuals helped this Nation achieve scientific and technological advancements which inspired the world.

Mr. Speaker, Neil Armstrong was the spacecraft commander for *Apollo 11*, the first manned lunar landing mission in history. He was the first person to land a craft on the Moon and the first to step foot on its surface. His immortal words are forever etched in our national memory.

"Buzz" Aldrin piloted the Lunar Module "Eagle" and was the second person to walk on the Moon.

Michael Collins piloted the Command Module "Columbia" in lunar orbit and helped his fellow *Apollo 11* astronauts complete their mission on the Moon.

Seven-and-a-half years earlier, John Glenn paved the way for these achievements by becoming the first American to orbit the Earth in February of 1962.

Two years ago, on the 40th anniversary of *Apollo 11*'s historic lunar landing, the New Frontier Congressional Gold Medal Act was passed by Congress. Forty-two years ago, in July of 1969, millions of Americans were transfixed on a place over a quarter of a million miles away. Eyes watched as we stepped into the unknown, walked on the Moon and made history.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to present this resolution today, and I urge my

colleagues to support it in honoring the achievements of these national heroes.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION,

Washington, DC, October 3, 2011.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,

Speaker of the House, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: I write to notify you that the Committee on House Administration hereby waives further committee consideration of S. Con. Res. 29, a concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the rotunda of the United States Capitol for an event to present the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to Neil A. Armstrong, Edwin E. "Buzz" Aldrin, Jr., Michael Collins, and John Herschel Glenn, Jr., in recognition of their significant contributions to society, in order that the legislation may proceed expeditiously to the House floor for consideration.

Sincerely,

DANIEL E. LUNGREN,

Chairman.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol rotunda to award Congressional Gold Medals to Neil A. Armstrong, Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin, Jr., Michael Collins, and John Herschel Glenn, Jr., for being pioneers of space exploration. The bill granting the medals was sponsored by former Representative Alan Grayson in the 110th Congress and was signed into law by President Obama on August 7, 2009.

It can be said that these four heroes are trailblazers, but their paths ensured they were not the last. They showed everyone that the impossible is possible and inspired generations to study, question, and explore the world beyond our own planet. For that, they have not only left a mark on history but on the will and determination of mankind.

As President John F. Kennedy noted in a speech to Congress on May 25, 1961, "I believe that this Nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the Moon and returning him safely to the Earth." And so we did.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me today in supporting this concurrent resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL), the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

Mr. HALL. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 29, authorizing the use of the Capitol rotunda to present the Congressional Gold Medal to the crew of *Apollo 11*—Buzz Aldrin, Neil Armstrong, and Mike Collins—and to the first American to orbit the Earth, John H. Glenn.

These great Americans need no introduction. Yet no matter their heroic accomplishments, it is well worth re-

membering the huge risks each of these individuals confronted as they began to push the boundaries of human exploration in outer space.

While the technologies they relied on to conduct their flights were considered cutting edge during their day, many of these systems had never been fully tested except during the actual first flights performed by these men.

On February 20, 1962, John Glenn rode to orbit atop an Atlas rocket that had been adapted from a military design to carry the Mercury capsule *Friendship 7* to orbit. His flight lasted nearly 5 hours before returning safely to Earth. Seven years and 5 months later, *Apollo 11* astronauts Buzz Aldrin, Neil Armstrong, and Mike Collins were launched. After a 4-day flight, Neil and Buzz landed on the Moon, becoming the first humans to walk on its surface.

I was honored to chair a hearing just 2 weeks ago that included Neil Armstrong and fellow *Apollo* astronaut Gene Cernan, the last American man to walk on the Moon, as witnesses. Mr. Armstrong prefaced the hearing with a very dramatic video that included footage of his descent inside the *Eagle* lunar module to its landing.

□ 1700

Many of you, I'm sure, have seen this footage, but to hear Neil Armstrong offer a live narration as the *Eagle* descends and settles on the Moon's surface is something I'll never forget.

I also want to recognize my good friend Buzz Aldrin, whom I've come to know over the years. Buzz has never failed to counsel me on all things related to space and NASA, and I appreciate his commitment to our country and to our space program.

Mr. Speaker, the last Congress passed legislation, signed by the President, authorizing the Congressional Gold Medal for these brave astronauts. The legislation before us today, S. Con. Res. 29, authorizes the use of the Capitol rotunda on November 16, some 43 days hence, to formally make the award.

I support the resolution and urge all Members to support it as well.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. I thank the gentleman from Mississippi, my friend.

I urge all Members to support this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Chairman LUNGREN and Ranking Member BRADY for their support on this matter.

I urge my colleagues to support this concurrent resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. Con. Res. 29, which would authorize the use of the Capitol rotunda for an event on November 16, 2011 to present Neil A. Armstrong, Edwin E. "Buzz" Aldrin, Jr., Michael Collins, and John Herschel Glenn, Jr., with the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian award that this nation can bestow

on an individual. I would like to call to your attention in particular the deeds of one of those outstanding individuals, "Buzz" Aldrin.

Buzz Aldrin was born at Mountinside Hospital in New Jersey in 1930. He graduated from Montclair High School in 1946, turning down a scholarship at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in favor of the chance to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he graduated third in his class in 1951. I am proud to represent Montclair, and I am sure that the citizens of my Eighth District would agree that Buzz Aldrin is one of our most distinguished natives.

After graduating from West Point, Aldrin received his commission as a second lieutenant in the United States Air Force. He flew 66 combat missions during the Korean War, and shot down two enemy fighters during his distinguished service there. Following the war, Aldrin served as an instructor at the U.S. Air Force Academy, and later earned his Doctor of Science Degree from MIT. In 1963, he was selected to become a NASA astronaut.

On July 20th, 1969, Buzz Aldrin walked on the moon as a member of the crew of NASA's *Apollo 11* mission. He was the second human being ever on the moon, following his crewmate Neil Armstrong. He is the first astronaut to both spacewalk and set foot on the moon.

Since his retirement from active duty in 1972 after 21 years of service, Col. Aldrin continues to advocate for space travel, appearing repeatedly on television, in print, and in person around the country. He has helped NASA to develop new training techniques, and has proposed innovative new ideas for manned missions to the planet Mars and its moons. As an author, he has published two science-fiction novels, two autobiographies, and several children's books.

Col. Aldrin has been honored with countless awards and distinctions for his service with the U.S. Air Force, with NASA, and to the country. These awards include the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal, the NASA Exceptional Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Buzz Aldrin also has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, and was inducted into the New Jersey Hall of Fame in 2007. It is fitting that he now be bestowed the Congressional Gold Medal.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing and commemorating the achievements of brave heroes such as Buzz Aldrin.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the citizens of New Jersey's Eighth District, and me in recognizing Edwin E. "Buzz" Aldrin, Jr. and his colleagues for their outstanding service to this nation in the name of science, education, and discovery.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 29 authorizing the use of the rotunda of the United States Capitol for an event to present the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to Neil A. Armstrong, Edwin E. "Buzz" Aldrin, Jr., Michael Collins, and John Herschel Glenn, Jr., in recognition of their significant contributions to society. Their hard work and perseverance exemplify the work ethic we stand for as a nation, and I can think of no place better than the rotunda to honor their leadership and sacrifice in service to this country.

The rotunda of the United States Capitol offers the perfect venue to show the necessary respect to three men who risked their lives to change the course of history in the name of the United States of America. In the tension of the Cold War, when it seemed the existence of the free world had been brought into question, these three men stepped directly into harm's way in service to their country. A ceremony in the rotunda will evoke the honor and respect that we owe to these three brave men, and I offer my full support for the use of this space.

The Congressional Gold Medal is an award bestowed by Congress for outstanding deeds or acts of service to the security, prosperity, and national interest of the United States. The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest civilian award, and these men are deserving recipients.

The importance of this event is particularly relevant to the 18th district of Texas given the city of Houston's role in the Apollo legacy. Not long after President Kennedy set our nation on the course of putting a man on the moon, Houston became a key player in the realization of that goal. Before uttering his famous phrase, Neil Armstrong, communicated with Johnson Space Center's Mission Control Center from the surface of the moon, stating "Houston, the *Eagle* has landed." The historic lunar landing remains a cornerstone of the American legacy, and at a time when the very existence of NASA sits in question, it is especially important that we deliver a ceremony that will propel the memory of NASA pioneers into future generations.

Neil A. Armstrong, Edwin E. "Buzz" Aldrin, Jr., Michael Collins, and John Herschel Glenn, Jr. were called to service by their country, in a time when two great nations challenged each other and boldly raced into space. In the bleak years of the Cold War, we conquered a new frontier, and in turn understood things about the universe we never thought possible. These men played an important role in American history that will benefit generations to come, and are well deserving of this honor.

It is in a spirit of deep appreciation that I am pleased to join my colleagues in supporting S. Con. Res 29, authorizing the use of the rotunda of the United States Capitol for an event to present the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to Neil A. Armstrong, Edwin E. "Buzz" Aldrin, Jr., Michael Collins, and John Herschel Glenn, Jr., in recognition of their significant contributions to society.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. HARPER) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the concurrent resolution, S. Con. Res. 29.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LEGISLATION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS IMPLEMENTING UNITED STATES-COLOMBIA TRADE PROMOTION AGREEMENT—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 112-58)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

I am pleased to transmit legislation and supporting documents to implement the United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement (Agreement). The Agreement is an important part of my Administration's efforts to spur economic growth, increase exports, and create jobs in the United States, while promoting our core values. The Agreement will create significant new opportunities for American workers, farmers, ranchers, businesses, and consumers by opening the Colombian market and eliminating barriers to U.S. goods, services, and investment.

The Agreement also represents a historic development in our relations with Colombia. Colombia is a steadfast strategic partner of the United States and a leader in the region. The Agreement reflects the commitment of the United States to supporting democracy and economic growth in Colombia. It will also help Colombia battle production of illegal crops by creating alternative economic opportunities.

Under the Agreement, tariffs on over 80 percent of U.S. consumer and industrial exports will be eliminated immediately. United States agricultural exports in particular will enjoy substantial new improvements in access to Colombia's market. Currently, no U.S. agricultural exports enjoy duty-free access to Colombia. Once the Agreement enters into force, almost 70 percent, by value, of current U.S. agricultural exports will be able to enter Colombia duty-free immediately. In addition, the Agreement will give American service providers greater access to Colombia's \$134 billion services market. This will help to level the playing field, since 91 percent of our imports from Colombia have enjoyed duty-free access to our market under U.S. trade preference programs.

The Agreement contains state of the art provisions to help protect and enforce intellectual property rights, reduce regulatory red tape, and eliminate regulatory barriers to U.S. exports. The Agreement also contains the highest standards for protecting labor rights, carrying out covered environmental agreements, and ensuring that key domestic labor and environmental laws are enforced, combined with strong remedies for noncompliance. Colombia has already made significant reforms related to the obligations it

will have under the labor chapter. A number of these steps have been taken in fulfillment of the commitments Colombia made in the agreed Action Plan Related to Labor Rights that President Santos and I announced on April 7. Colombia must successfully implement key elements of the Action Plan before I will bring the Agreement into force.

This Agreement forms an integral part of my Administration's larger strategy of doubling exports by the end of 2014 through opening markets around the world. In addition, the Agreement provides an opportunity to strengthen our economic and political ties with the Andean region, and underpins U.S. support for democracy while contributing to further hemispheric integration and economic growth in the United States. This Agreement is vital to ensuring Colombia continues on its trajectory of positive change.

As a part of an ambitious trade agenda, it is important that the Congress renew a strong and robust Trade Adjustment Assistance Program consistent with reforms enacted in 2009. Renewal of that program is necessary to support Americans who need training and other services when their jobs are adversely affected by trade. As we expand access to other markets abroad, we need to ensure that American workers are provided the tools needed to take advantage of these opportunities and are not left behind in the global economy.

Approval of the Agreement is therefore in our national interest. I urge the Congress to enact this legislation promptly.

BARACK OBAMA,  
THE WHITE HOUSE, October 3, 2011.

LEGISLATION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS IMPLEMENTING UNITED STATES-PANAMA TRADE PROMOTION AGREEMENT—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 112-59)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

I am pleased to transmit legislation and supporting documents to implement the United States-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement (Agreement). The Agreement is an important part of my Administration's efforts to spur economic growth, increase exports, and create jobs here in the United States, while promoting our core values. The Agreement will create significant new opportunities for American workers, farmers, ranchers, manufacturers, investors, and businesses by opening Panama's market and eliminating barriers to U.S. goods, services, and investment.

The Agreement also represents an important development in our relations with Panama, and accords with the goal, as expressed by the Congress in the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act, to conclude comprehensive, mutually advantageous trade agreements with beneficiary countries of the Caribbean Basin Initiative trade preference program. The Agreement further reflects a commitment on the part of the United States to sustained engagement in support of democracy, economic growth, and opportunity in Panama and the region.

Panama is one of the fastest growing economies in Latin America. Upon entry into force of the Agreement, Panama will immediately eliminate its tariffs on over 87 percent of U.S. exports of consumer and industrial goods and on more than half of U.S. exports of agricultural goods. Panama will eliminate most other duties on U.S. exports within a 15-year transition period. Eighty-five percent of U.S. businesses exporting to Panama are small and medium-sized enterprises. The elimination of duties provided for in the Agreement will help to level the playing field for them and for all U.S. exporters, based on 2010 trade flows, as approximately 98 percent of our imports from Panama already enjoy duty-free access to the U.S. market. In addition, the Agreement will give American service providers greater access to Panama's \$20.6 billion services market.

The Agreement contains state of the art provisions to help protect and enforce intellectual property rights, reduce regulatory red tape, and eliminate regulatory barriers to U.S. exports. The Agreement also contains the highest standards for protecting labor rights, carrying out covered environmental agreements, and ensuring that key domestic labor and environmental laws are enforced, combined with strong remedies for noncompliance. Panama has already made significant reforms related to the obligations it will have under the labor chapter.

As a part of an ambitious trade agenda, it is important that the Congress renew a strong and robust Trade Adjustment Assistance Program consistent with reforms enacted in 2009. Renewal of that program is necessary to support Americans who need training and other services when their jobs are adversely affected by trade. As we expand access to other markets abroad, we need to ensure that American workers are provided the tools needed to take advantage of these opportunities and are not left behind in the global economy.

Approval of the Agreement is in our national interest. The Agreement will strengthen our economic and political ties with Panama, support democracy, and contribute to further economic integration in our hemisphere and economic growth in the United States. I urge the Congress to enact this legislation promptly.

BARACK OBAMA,  
THE WHITE HOUSE, October 3, 2011.

□ 1710

LEGISLATION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS IMPLEMENTING UNITED STATES-KOREA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 112-60)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

I am pleased to transmit legislation and supporting documents to implement the United States-Korea Free Trade Agreement (Agreement), a landmark agreement that supports American jobs, advances U.S. interests, and reflects America's fundamental values.

The Agreement levels the playing field for U.S. businesses, workers, farmers, ranchers, manufacturers, investors, and service providers by offering them unprecedented access to Korea's nearly \$1 trillion economy. The Agreement eliminates tariffs on over 95 percent of U.S. exports of industrial and consumer goods to Korea within the first 5 years and, together with the agreement entered into through an exchange of letters in February 2011, addresses key outstanding concerns of American automakers and workers regarding the lack of a level playing field in Korea's auto market. The Agreement also ensures that almost two-thirds of current U.S. agricultural exports will enter Korea duty-free immediately. In addition, the Agreement will give American service providers much greater access to Korea's \$580 billion services market.

The Agreement contains state of the art provisions to help protect and enforce intellectual property rights, reduce regulatory red tape, and eliminate regulatory barriers to U.S. exports. The Agreement also contains the highest standards for protecting labor rights, carrying out covered environmental agreements, and ensuring that key domestic labor and environmental laws are enforced, combined with strong remedies for noncompliance.

Increased U.S. exports expected under the Agreement will support more than 70,000 American jobs. The Agreement will bolster our economic competitiveness in the Asia-Pacific region and our regional security interests. The United States once was the top supplier of goods exported to Korea. Over the past decade, our share of Korea's import market for goods has fallen from 21 percent to just 10 percent—behind China and Japan, and barely ahead of the European Union (EU). The EU and several other trading partners are negotiating or have recently concluded trade agreements with Korea. If the United States-Korea trade agreement is not approved, the United States could lose further market share,



export-supported jobs, and economic growth opportunities, with damage to our leadership position in the region.

As a part of an ambitious trade agenda, it is important that the Congress renew a strong and robust Trade Adjustment Assistance Program consistent with reforms enacted in 2009. Renewal of that program is necessary to support Americans who need training and other services when their jobs are adversely affected by trade. As we expand access to other markets abroad, we need to ensure that American workers are provided the tools needed to take advantage of these opportunities and are not left behind in the global economy.

Approving and implementing the Agreement is an opportunity to shape history. We must seize the moment together to support jobs for the American people today and to sustain U.S. leadership well into the 21st century. I urge the Congress to enact this legislation promptly.

BARACK OBAMA,  
THE WHITE HOUSE, October 3, 2011.

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF UNITED STATES-KOREA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 112-61)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

By separate message, I have transmitted to the Congress a bill to approve and implement the United States-Korea Free Trade Agreement. In that message, I highlighted new commitments that my Administration, in close coordination with the Congress, successfully negotiated to provide additional market access and a level playing field for American auto manufacturers and workers exporting to Korea.

Herewith I am transmitting the letters exchanged between the United States and Korea that contain those commitments, which further enhance the most commercially significant trade agreement the United States has concluded in more than 17 years. The documents I have transmitted in these two messages constitute the entire United States-Korea trade agreement package.

BARACK OBAMA,  
THE WHITE HOUSE, October 3, 2011.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. YODER) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

DIRECTING THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO MAKE A FURTHER CORRECTION IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 2608

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I send to the desk a concurrent resolution and ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 83

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),* That, in the enrollment of the bill (H.R. 2608) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes, the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall make the following further correction:

Amend section 124 to read as follows: "SEC. 124. Section 8909a(d)(3)(A)(v) of title 5, United States Code, shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for the date specified in such section 8909a(d)(3)(A)(v)."

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2832, TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE EXTENSION ACT OF 2011

Mr. NUGENT, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 112-230) on the resolution (H. Res. 418) providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2832) to extend the Generalized System of Preferences, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2681, CEMENT SECTOR REGULATORY RELIEF ACT OF 2011; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2250, EPA REGULATORY RELIEF ACT OF 2011

Mr. NUGENT, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report

(Rept. No. 112-231) on the resolution (H. Res. 419) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2681) to provide additional time for the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to issue achievable standards for cement manufacturing facilities, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2250) to provide additional time for the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to issue achievable standards for industrial, commercial, and institutional boilers, process heaters, and incinerators, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

- H.R. 686, by the yeas and nays;
- H.R. 765, by the yeas and nays;
- H.R. 670, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

UTAH NATIONAL GUARD READINESS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 686) to require the conveyance of certain public land within the boundaries of Camp Williams, Utah, to support the training and readiness of the Utah National Guard, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 400, nays 0, not voting 33, as follows:

[Roll No. 742]

YEAS—400

Ackerman	Berman	Bucshon
Adams	Biggart	Buerkle
Aderholt	Bilbray	Burgess
Alexander	Bilirakis	Burton (IN)
Altmire	Bishop (GA)	Butterfield
Amash	Bishop (NY)	Calvert
Amodei	Bishop (UT)	Camp
Andrews	Black	Canseco
Austria	Blackburn	Cantor
Baca	Blumenauer	Capito
Bachus	Bonner	Capps
Baldwin	Bono Mack	Capuano
Barletta	Boren	Cardoza
Barrow	Boswell	Carnahan
Bartlett	Boustany	Carney
Barton (TX)	Brady (PA)	Carson (IN)
Bass (CA)	Brady (TX)	Cassidy
Bass (NH)	Braley (IA)	Castor (FL)
Becerra	Brooks	Chabot
Benishek	Broun (GA)	Chaffetz
Berg	Brown (FL)	Chandler
Berkley	Buchanan	Chu

Cicilline	Hensarling	Miller, George	Stutzman	Turner (OH)	Webster	Canseco	Grimm	McKeon
Clarke (MI)	Herger	Moore	Sullivan	Upton	West	Cantor	Guinta	McKinley
Clarke (NY)	Herrera Beutler	Mulvaney	Sutton	Van Hollen	Westmoreland	Capito	Guthrie	McMorris
Clay	Higgins	Murphy (CT)	Terry	Velázquez	Whitfield	Capps	Hahn	Rodgers
Cleaver	Himes	Murphy (PA)	Thompson (CA)	Visclosky	Wilson (FL)	Capuano	Hall	McNerney
Clyburn	Hinojosa	Myrick	Thompson (MS)	Walberg	Wilson (SC)	Cardoza	Hanabusa	Meehan
Coble	Hirono	Nadler	Thompson (PA)	Walden	Wittman	Carnahan	Hanna	Meeks
Coffman (CO)	Hochul	Napolitano	Thornberry	Walsh (IL)	Wolf	Carney	Harper	Mica
Cohen	Holden	Neal	Tiberi	Walz (MN)	Womack	Carson (IN)	Harris	Michaud
Cole	Holt	Neugebauer	Tierney	Wasserman	Woodall	Cassidy	Hartzler	Miller (FL)
Conaway	Honda	Noem	Tipton	Schultz	Woolsey	Castor (FL)	Hastings (FL)	Miller (MI)
Connolly (VA)	Hoyer	Nugent	Tonko	Waters	Yarmuth	Chabot	Hastings (WA)	Miller, Gary
Conyers	Huelskamp	Nunes	Tsongas	Watt	Yoder	Chaffetz	Hayworth	Miller, George
Cooper	Huizenga (MI)	Nunnelee	Turner (NY)	Waxman	Young (IN)	Chandler	Heck	Moore
Costa	Hultgren	Olson				Chu	Heinrich	Mulvaney
Courtney	Hunter	Owens				Cicilline	Hensarling	Murphy (CT)
Cravaack	Hurt	Palazzo	Akin	Gutierrez	Rokita	Clarke (MI)	Herger	Murphy (PA)
Crawford	Inslee	Pallone	Bachmann	Hinchee	Rooney	Clarke (NY)	Herrera Beutler	Myrick
Critz	Israel	Pascarell	Campbell	Johnson, E. B.	Rush	Clay	Higgins	Nadler
Crowley	Issa	Pastor (AZ)	Carter	Kingston	Sanchez, Loretta	Cleaver	Himes	Napolitano
Cuellar	Jackson (IL)	Paulsen	Costello	Lummis	Schmidt	Clyburn	Hinojosa	Neal
Culberson	Jackson Lee	Payne	Crenshaw	Moran	Shuler	Coble	Hirono	Neugebauer
Cummings	(TX)	Pearce	Engel	Olver	Speier	Coffman (CO)	Hochul	Noem
Davis (CA)	Jenkins	Pelosi	Filner	Paul	Towns	Cohen	Holden	Nugent
Davis (IL)	Johnson (GA)	Pence	Giffords	Polis	Welch	Cole	Holt	Nunes
Davis (KY)	Johnson (IL)	Perlmutter	Graves (MO)	Rahall	Young (AK)	Conaway	Honda	Nunnelee
DeFazio	Johnson (OH)	Peters	Grijalva	Rohrabacher	Young (FL)	Connolly (VA)	Hoyer	Olson
DeGette	Johnson, Sam	Peterson				Conyers	Huelskamp	Owens
DeLauro	Jones	Petri				Cooper	Huizenga (MI)	Palazzo
Denham	Jordan	Pingree (ME)				Costa	Hultgren	Pallone
Dent	Kaptur	Pitts				Courtney	Hunter	Pascarell
DesJarlais	Keating	Platts				Cravaack	Hurt	Pastor (AZ)
Deutch	Kelly	Poe (TX)				Crawford	Inslee	Paulsen
Diaz-Balart	Kildee	Pompeo				Critz	Israel	Payne
Dicks	Kind	Posey				Crowley	Issa	Pearce
Dingell	King (IA)	Price (GA)				Cuellar	Jackson (IL)	Pelosi
Doggett	King (NY)	Price (NC)				Culberson	Jackson Lee	Pence
Dold	Kinzinger (IL)	Quayle				Cummings	(TX)	Perlmutter
Donnelly (IN)	Kissell	Quigley				Davis (CA)	Jenkins	Peters
Doyle	Kline	Rangel				Davis (IL)	Johnson (IL)	Petri
Dreier	Kucinich	Reed				Davis (KY)	Johnson (OH)	Pingree (ME)
Duffy	Labrador	Rehberg				DeFazio	Johnson, Sam	Pitts
Duncan (SC)	Lamborn	Reichert				DeGette	Jones	Platts
Duncan (TN)	Lance	Renacci				DeLauro	Jordan	Poe (TX)
Edwards	Landry	Reyes				Denham	Kaptur	Pompeo
Ellison	Langevin	Ribble				Dent	Keating	Posey
Ellmers	Lankford	Richardson				DesJarlais	Kelly	Price (GA)
Emerson	Larsen (WA)	Richmond				Deutch	Kildee	Price (NC)
Eshoo	Larson (CT)	Rigell				Diaz-Balart	Kind	Quayle
Farenthold	Latham	Rivera				Dicks	King (IA)	Quigley
Farr	LaTourette	Roby				Dingell	King (NY)	Rangel
Fattah	Latta	Roe (TN)				Doggett	Kinzinger (IL)	Reed
Fincher	Lee (CA)	Rogers (AL)				Dold	Kissell	Rehberg
Fitzpatrick	Levin	Rogers (KY)				Donnelly (IN)	Kline	Reichert
Flake	Lewis (CA)	Rogers (MI)				Doyle	Kucinich	Renacci
Fleischmann	Lewis (GA)	Ros-Lehtinen				Dreier	Labrador	Reyes
Fleming	Lipinski	Roskam				Duffy	Lamborn	Ribble
Flores	LoBiondo	Ross (AR)				Duncan (SC)	Lance	Richardson
Forbes	Loeback	Ross (FL)				Duncan (TN)	Landry	Richmond
Fortenberry	Lofgren, Zoe	Rothman (NJ)				Edwards	Langevin	Rigell
Fox	Long	Roybal-Allard				Ellison	Lankford	Rivera
Frank (MA)	Lowey	Royce				Ellmers	Larsen (WA)	Roby
Frank (AZ)	Lucas	Runyan				Emerson	Larson (CT)	Roe (TN)
Frelinghuysen	Luetkemeyer	Ruppersberger				Eshoo	Latham	Rogers (AL)
Fudge	Luján	Ryan (OH)				Farenthold	LaTourette	Rogers (KY)
Gallely	Lungren, Daniel	Ryan (WI)				Farr	Latta	Rogers (MI)
Garamendi	E.	Sánchez, Linda				Fattah	Lee (CA)	Ros-Lehtinen
Gardner	Lynch	T.				Fincher	Levin	Roskam
Garrett	Mack	Sarbanes				Fitpatrick	Lewis (CA)	Ross (AR)
Gerlach	Maloney	Scalise				Flake	Lewis (GA)	Ross (FL)
Gibbs	Manzullo	Schakowsky				Fleischmann	Lipinski	Rothman (NJ)
Gibson	Marchant	Schiff				Fleming	LoBiondo	Royce
Gingrey (GA)	Marino	Schilling				Flores	Loeback	Runyan
Gohmert	Markey	Schock				Forbes	Lofgren, Zoe	Ruppersberger
Gonzalez	Matheson	Schrader				Fortenberry	Long	Ryan (OH)
Goodlatte	Matsui	Schwartz				Fox	Lowey	Ryan (WI)
Gosar	McCarthy (CA)	Schweikert				Frank (MA)	Lucas	Sánchez, Linda
Gowdy	McCarthy (NY)	Scott (SC)				Franks (AZ)	Luetkemeyer	T.
Granger	McCaul	Scott (VA)				Frelinghuysen	Luján	Sarbanes
Graves (GA)	McClintock	Scott, Austin				Fudge	Lungren, Daniel	Scalise
Green, Al	McCollum	Scott, David				Gallely	E.	Schakowsky
Green, Gene	McCotter	Sensenbrenner				Garamendi	Lynch	Schiff
Griffin (AR)	McDermott	Serrano	Ackerman	Bass (NH)	Boren	Gardner	Mack	Schilling
Griffith (VA)	McGovern	Sessions	Adams	Becerra	Boswell	Garrett	Maloney	Schock
Grimm	McHenry	Sewell	Aderholt	Benishkek	Boustany	Gerlach	Manzullo	Schrader
Guinta	McIntyre	Sherman	Alexander	Berg	Brady (PA)	Gibbs	Marchant	Schwartz
Guthrie	McKeon	Shimkus	Altmire	Berkley	Brady (TX)	Gibson	Marino	Schweikert
Hahn	McKinley	Shuster	Amash	Berman	Braley (IA)	Gingrey (GA)	Matheson	Scott (SC)
Hall	McMorris	Simpson	Amodei	Biggett	Brooks	Gohmert	Matsui	Scott (VA)
Hanabusa	Rodgers	Sires	Andrews	Bilbray	Broun (GA)	Gonzalez	McCarthy (CA)	Scott, Austin
Hanna	McNerney	Slaughter	Austria	Bilirakis	Brown (FL)	Goodlatte	McCarthy (NY)	Scott, David
Harper	Meehan	Smith (NE)	Baca	Bishop (GA)	Buchanan	Gosar	McCaul	Sensenbrenner
Harris	Meeks	Smith (NJ)	Bachus	Bishop (NY)	Bucshon	Gowdy	McClintock	Serrano
Hartzler	Mica	Smith (TX)	Baldwin	Bishop (UT)	Buerkle	Granger	McCollum	Sessions
Hastings (FL)	Michaud	Smith (WA)	Barletta	Black	Burgess	Graves (GA)	McCotter	Sewell
Hastings (WA)	Miller (FL)	Southerland	Barrow	Blackburn	Burton (IN)	Green, Al	McDermott	Sherman
Hayworth	Miller (MI)	Stark	Bartlett	Blumenauer	Butterfield	Green, Gene	McGovern	Shimkus
Heck	Miller (NC)	Stearns	Barton (TX)	Blumenauer	Calvert	Griffin (AR)	McHenry	Shuster
Heinrich	Miller, Gary	Stivers	Bass (CA)	Bono Mack	Camp	Griffith (VA)	McIntyre	Simpson

## NOT VOTING—33

□ 1855

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 742, I was away from the Capitol due to a prior commitment to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

## SKI AREA RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2011

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 765) to amend the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 to clarify the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture regarding additional recreational uses of National Forest System land that is subject to ski area permits, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 394, nays 0, not voting 39, as follows:

[Roll No. 743]

YEAS—394

Ackerman	Bass (NH)	Boren
Adams	Becerra	Boswell
Aderholt	Benishkek	Boustany
Alexander	Berg	Brady (PA)
Altmire	Berkley	Brady (TX)
Amash	Berman	Braley (IA)
Amodei	Biggett	Brooks
Andrews	Bilbray	Broun (GA)
Austria	Bilirakis	Brown (FL)
Baca	Bishop (GA)	Buchanan
Bachus	Bishop (NY)	Bucshon
Baldwin	Bishop (UT)	Buerkle
Barletta	Black	Burgess
Barrow	Blackburn	Burton (IN)
Bartlett	Blumenauer	Butterfield
Barton (TX)	Bonner	Calvert
Bass (CA)	Bono Mack	Camp

Sires	Thornberry	Waters	Bilbray	Forbes	Loeb sack	Rothman (NJ)	Shimkus	Upton
Slaughter	Tiberi	Watt	Bilirakis	Fortenberry	Lofgren, Zoe	Roybal-Allard	Shuster	Van Hollen
Smith (NE)	Tierney	Waxman	Bishop (GA)	Bishop (NY)	Long	Royce	Sires	Velázquez
Smith (NJ)	Tipton	Webster	Bishop (UT)	Frank (MA)	Lowey	Runyan	Slaughter	Visclosky
Smith (TX)	Tonko	West	Black	Franks (AZ)	Lucas	Ruppersberger	Smith (NE)	Walberg
Smith (WA)	Tsongas	Westmoreland	Blackburn	Frelinghuysen	Luetkemeyer	Ryan (OH)	Smith (NJ)	Walden
Southerland	Turner (NY)	Whitfield	Blumenauer	Fudge	Luján	Ryan (WI)	Smith (TX)	Walsh (IL)
Stark	Turner (OH)	Wilson (FL)	Bonner	Gallegly	Lungren, Daniel E.	Sánchez, Linda T.	Smith (WA)	Walz (MN)
Stearns	Upton	Wilson (SC)	Bono Mack	Garamendi	Lynch	Sarbanes	Southerland	Wasserman
Stivers	Van Hollen	Wittman	Boren	Garrett	Mack	Scalise	Stark	Schultz
Stutzman	Visclosky	Wolf	Boswell	Gerlach	Maloney	Schakowsky	Stearns	Watt
Sullivan	Walberg	Womack	Boustany	Gibbs	Manzullo	Schiff	Stivers	Waxman
Sutton	Walden	Woodall	Brady (PA)	Gibson	Marchant	Schilling	Stutzman	Webster
Terry	Walsh (IL)	Woolsey	Brady (TX)	Gingrey (GA)	Marino	Schock	Sullivan	West
Thompson (CA)	Walz (MN)	Yarmuth	Braley (IA)	Gohmert	Markey	Schrader	Terry	Westmoreland
Thompson (MS)	Wasserman	Yoder	Brooks	Gonzalez	Matheson	Schwartz	Thompson (CA)	Whitfield
Thompson (PA)	Schultz	Young (IN)	Broun (GA)	Goodlatte	Matsui	Schweikert	Thompson (MS)	Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—39

Akin	Johnson (GA)	Rokita
Bachmann	Johnson, E. B.	Rooney
Campbell	Kingston	Roybal-Allard
Carter	Lummis	Rush
Costello	Markey	Sanchez, Loretta
Crenshaw	Miller (NC)	Schmidt
Engel	Moran	Shuler
Filner	Olver	Speier
Giffords	Paul	Towns
Graves (MO)	Peterson	Velázquez
Grijalva	Polis	Welch
Gutierrez	Rahall	Young (AK)
Hinchev	Rohrabacher	Young (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE  
 The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are less than 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1902

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 743, I was away from the Capitol due to a prior commitment to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

CONVEYING SUBMERGED LANDS TO NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 670) to convey certain submerged lands to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in order to give that territory the same benefits in its submerged lands as Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa have in their submerged lands, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 397, nays 0, not voting 36, as follows:

[Roll No. 744]

YEAS—397

Ackerman	Austria	Bass (CA)
Adams	Baca	Bass (NH)
Aderholt	Bachus	Becerra
Alexander	Baldwin	Benishkek
Altmire	Barletta	Berg
Amash	Barrow	Berkley
Amodoi	Bartlett	Berman
Andrews	Barton (TX)	Biggart

Bucanan	Bucshon	Buerkle	Burgess	Burton (IN)	Butterfield	Calvert	Camp	Canseco	Cantor	Capito	Capps	Capuano	Cardoza	Carmahan	Carney	Carson (IN)	Cassidy	Castor (FL)	Chabot	Chaffetz	Chandler	Chu	Cicilline	Clarke (MI)	Clarke (NY)	Clay	Cleaver	Clyburn	Coble	Coffman (CO)	Cohen	Cole	Conaway	Connolly (VA)	Conyers	Cooper	Costa	Courtney	Cravaack	Crawford	Critz	Crowley	Cuellar	Culberson	Cummings	Davis (CA)	Davis (KY)	DeFazio	DeGette	DeLauro	Denham	Dent	DesJarlais	Deutch	Diaz-Balart	Dicks	Dingell	Doggett	Dold	Donnelly (IN)	Doyle	Dreier	Duffy	Duncan (SC)	Duncan (TN)	Edwards	Ellison	Ellmers	Emerson	Eshoo	Farenthold	Farr	Fattah	Fincher	Fitzpatrick	Flake	Fleischmann	Fleming	Flores
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NOT VOTING—36

Akin	Gutierrez	Rokita
Bachmann	Hinchev	Rooney
Campbell	Johnson, E. B.	Rush
Carter	Kingston	Sanchez, Loretta
Costello	Lummis	Schmidt
Crenshaw	Moran	Shuler
Davis (IL)	Olver	Simpson
Engel	Paul	Speier
Filner	Polis	Towns
Giffords	Price (GA)	Welch
Graves (MO)	Rahall	Young (AK)
Grijalva	Rohrabacher	Young (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE  
 The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1910

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 744, I was away from the Capitol due to a prior commitment to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 742, 743, and 744, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent for votes in the House Chamber today. I would like the RECORD to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 742, 743 and 744.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained in my district and missed the votes on October 3, 2011. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 742, H.R. 686; rollcall No. 743, H.R. 765; and rollcall No. 744, H.R. 670.

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE  
PRESIDENT

A further message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

MOTHER OF ALL TERRORISTS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Palestinian Authority has a new face for its movement for statehood. It's Latifa Hmeid. Palestinians praise her as the "mother of seven prisoners" and the mother of a person called "Martyr."

These sons of hers are in prison for crimes against humanity. Rather than mother of the year, it turns out she is really mother of all terrorists. One of her sons, the Martyr, was a member of the military wing of Hamas, who planned and conducted the ambush and murder of an Israeli intelligence officer. Her other sons are serving a total of—get this—18 life sentences in prison. They have committed crimes, including attempted murders, the murder of seven Israeli citizens, and the involvement in numerous terrorist attacks.

This is the person the Palestinians have leading the movement for statehood at the United Nations. Having Mother Terrorist as the representative for Palestinian statehood shows an obvious hatred and bigotry against Jews, the State of Israel, and the notion of peace. The Palestinians need to quit murdering in the name of religion and start honest bilateral negotiations with Israel in the name of peace. The U.N. should not unilaterally allow Palestinian statehood. Terrorists don't deserve a seat at the table.

And that's just the way it is.

LEMONT FIRE DEPARTMENT'S  
125TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Lemont Fire Department as it celebrates 125 years of service.

In 1886, the town fathers of Lemont adopted an ordinance that created a volunteer fire department that consisted of 22 volunteers split into two companies: the hose company and the hook and ladder company. Since then, the Lemont Fire Department has grown from a handful of volunteers to a force of 85 fire, EMT, administrative, and support personnel. Every day, they protect the towns of Lemont, Darien, Bolingbrook, Homer Glen, and portions of Woodridge, Illinois—an area that is roughly 40 square miles.

In the early years of the Lemont Fire Department, the volunteers had to drag their firefighting equipment to

the fires and brave nearly insurmountable odds to save their neighbors. The bravery that inspired those men to save their neighbors is a trait that has come to define the Lemont Fire Department and the men and women who serve in it.

Mr. Speaker, the Lemont Fire Department has worked very hard to become a pillar of service in my congressional district. I would like to join my colleagues in congratulating them for 125 years of distinguished service.

JUVENILE DIABETES RESEARCH

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to raise awareness about the importance of juvenile diabetes research.

Approximately 3 million Americans suffer from type 1 diabetes, also known as juvenile diabetes. More than 30,000 new people are diagnosed annually, including 15,000 children. These individuals must take insulin daily to stay alive and must undergo multiple injections or have insulin delivered through a pump.

The Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation is a leader in type 1 diabetes research worldwide. The goals of juvenile diabetes research are straightforward: to cure type 1 diabetes, to develop better ways to treat type 1 diabetes, and to prevent type 1 diabetes from occurring in those most susceptible. This research means taking scientific developments and translating them into cures, treatments, drugs, and therapies.

Mr. Speaker, by keeping our taxpayer investment in juvenile diabetes research, one day soon we will find a cure.

RECOGNIZING BOB SCHOENFELDT  
FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED CAREER

(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. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great friend and colleague, Bob Schoenfeldt, for his long and distinguished career in the field of agriculture.

After more than 34 years of service, Bob will be retiring this year from USDA, where he served as the area director for rural development in northwestern Pennsylvania, which is home to a diverse array of the Commonwealth's agriculture industry.

Bob has been at the forefront of ensuring agriculture continues to play a key role throughout Pennsylvania, especially through rural economic development. He has been a committed advocate for Pennsylvania's agriculture and family farmers across our State.

Like new shoes or hunting boots, I'm sure Bob's retirement will at first be

stiff and uncomfortable for a little while; but after such a long, distinguished and committed career, it's about time he put those feet up and relaxed for once.

Thank you, Bob, for your commitment to our State, the Nation, and the agriculture community. Congratulations on such an esteemed career. We wish you happiness and the best of luck in future endeavors.

NEW UNION AND NONUNION JOBS  
TO BE CREATED

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

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, today is a great day for many reasons.

First and foremost, the American worker is going to have an opportunity, I believe, to gain access to new markets in Colombia, Panama, and South Korea. Union and nonunion jobs are going to be created.

Another reason it's a great day is that, in just a few minutes, led by the distinguished chair of the Trade Subcommittee of the Ways and Means Committee, my friend from Houston (Mr. BRADY), who has been such a great champion of trade, is going to talk about the tremendous benefits that we're going to see. I see that he's going to be joined at least by Mr. CANSECO, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. SMITH, Mr. DAVIS, Dr. BOUSTANY, Mr. HERGER, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. GRIFFIN, Mr. DOLD, maybe Ms. JENKINS, and maybe even Angela Ellard for all I know, but lots of other people. Oh, my gosh. Who else have we got? TOM REED, of course, is in the back of the Chamber, and he's going to be a part of this.

Mr. Speaker, we are coming together in a bipartisan way. The President has just hours ago set up these agreements so that, again, union and nonunion workers are going to have a chance to have more jobs created as we open up these markets.

I wish all of my colleagues were going to participate in this. Godspeed, and thank you, thank you, thank you for coming together for the American people.

□ 1920

INSULTING AND DEMEANING  
COMMENT BY MR. HERMAN CAIN

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, all of us value constructive conversation and dialogue. In fact, I believe the Republican debates that have been occurring are valuable and insightful for the American people. I have no quarrel with the First Amendment and one's right to speak as one desires.

But I take issue with Mr. Herman Cain's very insulting and demeaning

comment on a whole body politic of people, African Americans, when asked the questions why they have made choices, political choices as they have made, and he chose to suggest that African Americans are brainwashed.

I take issue, Mr. Cain, with your very unfortunate choice of words, because if you look chronologically and historically at African Americans, they voted Republican; they voted Democrat. They were in love with the idea of President Lincoln, who, of course, is known to have freed the slaves, and voted for Republicans for a number of years.

Democrats and African Americans both vote their interests, their interest in saving Medicare and Medicaid and Social Security, their interest and investment in this Nation and relief from the burdensome taxes by the Bush administration.

So, Mr. Cain, get your facts right. We're not brainwashed, and I am absolutely insulted by your ludicrous insinuation of African American intellect in choosing their political party.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

THE SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BROOKS). Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

#### FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BRADY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as you know, our economy is in a tough situation here. Two-and-a-half years after recovery has supposedly started, we have almost 20 million Americans unable find a full-time job; yet we have companies, ranchers, businesses, technologies, small business anxious to sell their products around the world. But this administration, unfortunately, has not moved the free trade agreements that would allow us not simply to buy American, but to sell American in every corner of this globe.

I am pleased to announce that today, nearly 5 years after America signed a sales agreement, a trade agreement with Colombia, that the White House has submitted agreements, these agreements with Korea, Colombia, and Panama, to the United States Congress and the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives. We are going to move quickly and deliberately and strongly to pass these trade agreements so we can level the playing field and allow our farmers and companies and manufacturers and workers to compete and win around the world on that level playing field.

Tonight, we have a number of distinguished lawmakers who have focused on finding new customers for our companies and our farmers here at home.

I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. JENKINS), a member of the Ways and Means Committee and Trade Subcommittee.

Ms. JENKINS. I would like to thank the honorable chairman from Texas for his leadership on the issue of trade and for yielding.

In today's global economy, it's essential that we make every reasonable effort to open foreign markets to American products. Yet today, as our country is struggling with a lackluster GDP and stagnant job creation, grocery stores in South Korea are signing long-term agreements with beef producers from Europe, not America.

Why European, not American? Well, the reason is simple. While this administration has dragged its feet in the approval process of our own agreement, the European Union was able to enact their agreement with South Korea before the United States could take up our own. Therefore, the South Koreans are able to purchase European goods—most notably, agriculture products—at a much lower rate and prices because, unlike American goods and commodities, they do not have costly tariffs attached to them. The same is true with American goods and agriculture products in Colombia and Panama.

In the first 2 weeks after the EU-South Korea agreement was passed, European exports to South Korea rose by 16 percent. We are losing market share and American businesses are losing their competitive edge all as a result of Washington's inability to pass these essential agreements that supposedly have bipartisan support.

In fact, since Canada signed their free trade agreement with Colombia, the U.S. has lost nearly 30 percent of our market share in wheat exports to Colombia. Losing 30 percent of our market share in a key commodity like wheat has a tremendous impact on a small State like Kansas.

When it comes down to it, this isn't about ideologies. This is about American jobs. President Obama has said it himself, these agreements can create 250,000 American jobs, and yet he has sat on them for nearly 3 years. These agreements have the ability to immediately create thousands of jobs, open new markets for farmers, ranchers, and manufacturers, and play a pivotal role in growing our economy out of this stagnancy.

I would like to thank the President for ending his stall tactics and finally sending these agreements to us today, and I implore my colleagues in Congress to work with us to swiftly pass these vital trade agreements. Let's have beef producers from Kansas or even Texas, Mr. Chairman, signing long-term deals with South Korea, Colombia, and Panama, not Europe or Canada.

Let's finally back up this rhetoric with action. Let's get Americans back to work.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. I thank the gentlelady from Kansas for making the point that agriculture has paid a steep price as a result of the delays of these agreements, yet with the potential of signing these agreements has the abil-

ity to sell, win, and compete in these three important, growing, dynamic markets.

At this point, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. DAVIS), one of the key members of the Trade Subcommittee, with a manufacturing background, who understands the need for America to lead in the global marketplace.

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Thank you, Chairman BRADY. I appreciate you organizing a Special Order tonight dealing with these critical free trade agreements with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea.

I am encouraged that the President sent the agreement to the Hill earlier here today, and we are here to lend support to the President for these agreements and to encourage him to implement them as soon as they pass the House and Senate.

Passage of these trade agreements is long overdue and critical not just for our national economy, but also for our national security.

Through the Colombian agreement, we signal our dedication with a strategic and faithful ally. During my service in the U.S. Army, I ran U.S. Army aviation operations for the multinational force and observers in the Sinai, providing direct support and serving jointly with the Colombian military in the Middle East. In fact, they continue to serve in that same role. They are also serving in Haiti, Sierra Leone, and training militaries and police in counternarcotics and counterinsurgency measures across the globe.

U.S. leadership in our hemisphere is under threat from competitors, and the administration's inattention to Latin America is a real challenge that we are facing now. But the Colombia agreement signals our reengagement, which is critical to both our economic and our security future. U.S. exporters' share of Colombian imports fell 17 percent between 2001 and 2009, while Chinese exporter shares nearly tripled.

The trade agreement with Colombia will advance our national security interests by providing Colombians with alternatives to the drug trade. Colombia is a robust democracy with strong ties to the United States in a region that includes several increasingly anti-American governments, especially Venezuela. We must strengthen these ties and pacify any concerns about America's reliability as a partner by ratifying this trade agreement.

Similarly, implementing the Panama trade agreement will further mark our reengagement with the region, while countering anti-Americanism and China's increasing economic prominence.

The U.S. is the largest user of the Panama Canal and works closely with the Panamanian Government to ensure the safety of the canal itself. Panama is currently expanding the canal to double its capacity by allowing more and larger ships to transit. This expansion will increase the imports and exports to and from the United States

while creating the need for further cooperation between our two countries to enhance regional maritime and port security.

South Korea also serves as a critical U.S. ally, both diplomatically and militarily. Our alliance with the Republic of Korea has grown even closer since the March 2010 sinking of a South Korean naval vessel by a North Korean submarine. Currently, the U.S. maintains about 28,000 troops in the Republic of Korea, and our militaries regularly conduct joint exercises.

Our geostrategic relationship with South Korea is important not only to counteract the threat from North Korea, but also in dealing with China's military ambitions and security in the Pacific Rim.

With elections for South Korea's National Assembly and Presidency scheduled for 2012, it's critical to strengthen this vital relationship. Ratifying the South Korea trade agreement will demonstrate our commitment to this important partner and help to act as a counterweight to Chinese influence.

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Furthermore, entering into an FTA with South Korea will help reorient the alliance between our great nations to adapt to the changes on the Korean Peninsula and in East Asia. Continuing to delay ratification of the trade agreements with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea could seriously harm American credibility, economic advantages for our country's exporters, and our position of global leadership.

I urge the President to implement the agreements immediately after they clear Congress for the betterment of our national economic health and our military and diplomatic partnerships.

Thank you again, Chairman BRADY, for holding this important discussion tonight on the House floor.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. DAVIS, thank you for your leadership and for making the point tonight that these agreements, as important as they are for jobs and new customers, they are also important to enhance our security relationships in the growing Asia Pacific region, and in Latin America as well. Thank you for your leadership.

Now I would like to introduce the chairman of the Korean Trade Agreement Working Group. He is a key member of the Ways and Means Committee, and comes from a region that understands exports and imports create jobs in America. I yield to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. REICHERT).

Mr. REICHERT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I want to thank you for all of your hard work and your leadership in this area. I'm a newcomer to the world of trade, and a fairly newcomer to Congress, having been here for 6 years.

I want to talk a little bit about the frustration that I think a lot of us here in the House have been experiencing, and I think a lot of people, Mr. Speaker, across this country are feeling, and

that is a lot of frustration, a lot of anger at this Congress, the fact that we can't work together. But the good news is that today, we're going to have that opportunity. The President has finally decided to send those trade agreements that we've all been waiting for for the past 4 years to Congress so that we can have a vote on the South Korean agreement, the Colombia agreement, and the Panama agreement. And these are all important. Why? Because they create jobs. We know they create jobs.

In Washington State alone, one out of every three jobs is connected to trade—one out of every three jobs. South Korea is Washington's fourth-largest trading partner. It's important for the people of Washington State to have this partnership with Korea, with Colombia, and with Panama. Right now, we are falling behind. The European Union, as I think was mentioned earlier, signed their agreement and it became final on July 1 of this year. Since July 1, the European Union has increased their exports to Korea by 17 percent. We are losing market share. We are losing jobs. We must act now.

The estimated jobs that we are losing is almost 350,000 jobs as we sit here and wait. Ninety-five percent of our market is outside of the United States. Ninety-five percent of our market is outside the United States. We want to sell American. Sell American; that's our goal. Yeah, we want to buy American here in the United States. We all want to do that, but we want to sell American.

We can create 280,000 jobs by passing these agreements, and I think this is a time when Members of this Congress, both sides of the aisle, and including those divisions within the parties, need to come together. If you want to create jobs and you want to be a leader in this global economy, if you want to encourage innovation, entrepreneurship, the time is now. It's time to come together and pass these agreements by a wide bipartisan majority, show the American people that we are here to lead, show the rest of the world that we are here to lead. And we are here to compete because America has the best products, the best workers, and the best imagination in the world.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. I appreciate the gentleman from Washington making the point that Korea is such an important growing market in the Asia Pacific region. If America hopes to continue economic growth and to have the strongest economy in the world, we must engage in that region of the world, and the free trade agreement working group that Mr. REICHERT heads here in the House is critical to that.

I would now like to introduce the gentleman from Louisiana, Dr. CHARLES BOUSTANY, a valuable member of the Ways and Means Committee, who is so strong on trade, and comes from a State that understands trade means jobs, and I yield to Dr. BOUSTANY.

Mr. BOUSTANY. I thank the chairman for leading this effort tonight, and all of your leadership on trade issues as we go forward.

Expanding export markets for American farmers, manufacturers, and service providers is essential if we're going to have a strong American economy with private sector job creation. The United States has not acted aggressively enough to open markets over the past 3 years under the Obama administration. And now we're falling behind as other nations gain market share.

America has had a strong comparative advantage in agriculture production historically. In fact, in my home State of Louisiana, the number one export is agricultural commodities. Louisiana ranks fourth among the 50 States in exports. Over 500,000 jobs in my small State, a small State with a little over 4 million people, 500,000 jobs in Louisiana are supported directly by trade. Our rural communities in my State are supported by the strength of agricultural production and access to open markets. The local dentist's office, the local school, the small gas stations, all these things depend on the strength of agricultural production, not only in Louisiana but across our country. We need open markets for agricultural products if we're going to sustain these rural communities and economic development.

The trade promotion agreements with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea amount to over \$13 billion annually in new market access. The failure to implement these agreements has caused significant loss of market share. Louisiana, for instance, is the third-largest rice producer in the Nation. Louisiana and U.S. rice exporters face prohibitive tariffs currently in Colombia and Panama. These agreements would phase out these tariffs, creating huge opportunities for Louisiana farmers and millers. Over one-third of Louisiana exports to South Korea would see immediate duty relief and elimination, a significant advantage for Louisiana businesses.

The administration's failure to send these agreements over the past 3 years has had significant adverse consequences. In fact, on January 1, 2009, Colombia's trade agreement with Argentina went into effect, giving Argentina's farmers a competitive advantage over U.S. farmers. In fact, America's market share in the Colombian market for corn, wheat, and soybeans plunged from 71 percent in 2008 down to 27 percent through the first 10 months of 2010, a 44 percent drop in market share, precipitously, that was nearly matched by Argentina's gain. And that's just one example of the consequences of the failure to act on this—lost market share and job loss. We must immediately implement these agreements to promptly avoid further loss.

Mr. Speaker, American competitiveness, American credibility, and American leverage with our economic competitors is at stake. Passing these

agreements with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea is only a start. America needs to move beyond that. We need a well thought out trade strategy that will allow American farmers, businesses, and workers to compete and prosper. An American trade strategy is a critical instrument of American foreign policy because our economic strength is the foundation of both our soft power and our hard power. An American trade strategy is essential for American leadership in the 21st century.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. I appreciate the gentleman from Louisiana making the key point of how America is falling behind and how it's hurting our local economies, our local ranchers, our local service technologies, and our local ports as well.

I would like to yield to a gentleman from California, the former chairman of the Trade Subcommittee, who comes from a State and a district that is rich in the institutions of ranching and technology companies that export successfully around the world. I would like to yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. HERGER).

Mr. HERGER. I thank the gentleman from Texas very much, and I want to thank the gentleman for the tremendous leadership that you've given us in the area of trade, trade which is so crucially important to our Nation, to our ability to create jobs, to our economic well-being here in our Nation.

As Chairman BRADY mentioned, I am very blessed to represent one of the richest agricultural areas in the world, an area in the northern Sacramento valley of California just north of Sacramento. In our area, we are the second-largest rice producing district in the Nation. We're also one of the top producers of specialty crops: peaches, walnuts, almonds, dried plums, and prunes are some of our major commodities.

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And the fact is that we cannot, both in California and in our Nation, nearly consume the amount of products that we grow. We are dependent on being able to export. But our challenge—and the example I'm giving with my district is really true in every area across our Nation; it's true in manufacturing and it's true in everything we do—is that as one of the top trading nations in the world historically, the United States, we are dependent on being able to trade. Ninety-five percent of the world's markets lie outside of the United States.

Now, what are the challenges that we have, and why are these trade agreements, these three trade agreements with Panama, Colombia and South Korea, so very important to not only my area of California but to the entire Nation? The reason is that we have challenges in getting into other countries' markets. We have very little, very low barriers coming into our markets.

Other countries can trade with us almost barrier-free, but that is not the case with our products going to other countries. Other countries—virtually all of them—are very protective. They have very high tariffs. So therefore what is taking place when we sit down with these nations and bargain and come up with these trade agreements is an opportunity of lowering their barriers so that the district in my area where we can be able to export to them rice, peaches, walnuts, almonds, dairy products, and, again, our manufacturing goods, without these high barriers and be able to get access to those markets. So it's very important that we do this.

What happens when we don't move forward? Well, we can see it. I was in Panama just this last year. Panama now is doubling the size of the Panama Canal. They're going to need construction equipment. Now, where are they going to purchase this construction equipment? Well, they could be purchasing it from the United States. But guess what? Canada was successful in negotiating a trade agreement with Panama before we've had ours signed. Therefore, they have lower rates, lower barriers on getting their equipment into Panama. So Panama there has had a big advantage of buying from Canada, sales that would have come from the United States.

We can use these same examples with Colombia, the same example with South Korea who has negotiated with the EU, a major trading competitor with us. Therefore, we lose out in jobs, and we lose out in this market share. It is really a lose/lose for the United States.

I want to commend the President. We wish he would have sent these three agreements to us sooner. I'm grateful that he's sending them to us now. It's very important that we pass it. What we have seen is that the nonpartisan U.S. International Trade Commission has estimated that by signing these three trade agreements we can increase 250,000 new jobs to the United States—250,000 new jobs. That's without any stimulus, without any taxpayer money going into it. It is jobs for people who are unemployed today that can be employed, and it will increase at least \$13 billion in trade.

So I want to urge our Congress, I want to urge the House and I want to urge the Senate to vote for these, pass it, let's get going on these trades. Again, Mr. Chairman, thank you very much for your leadership.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Well, Chairman HERGER, thank you for your leadership in trade throughout the years. I know especially in California, but for all the country, trade means jobs. These new customers mean jobs. The longer we delay, the more other countries step in front of us and take our customers and, unfortunately, take our jobs. So thank you for your leadership.

One of the bright new members of the Ways and Means Committee is a gen-

tleman from Nebraska. He comes from a State that understands agriculture. He understands you can't survive just by selling to America. There are so many customers around the world that need to buy American products in agriculture that it's key to survival and it's key to job creation.

I would like to yield to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Thank you. I appreciate the opportunity to be here, and certainly I appreciate my colleague from California talking about agriculture. And it certainly speaks to the diversity of American agriculture when he listed so many products, and I don't think a single one of those that you listed is actually grown in Nebraska, and obviously we produce a lot of agriculture products in Nebraska, and we know what it's like to even produce more than we consume in our State alone. California might be slightly different, but we know that we've got efficient production all across America.

So I want to take just a moment to discuss the impact and benefits of trade agreements to Nebraska and certainly the national economy. As our economy continues to struggle, we should obviously be exploring every avenue to create businesses and create new jobs. Markets around the world present tremendous opportunity because of their size, scope, and rate of growth. And we've heard a lot of numbers tossed around this evening, but we know that beyond the U.S. lies 73 percent of the world's purchasing power, 87 percent of its economic growth, and 95 percent of the world's consumers.

While the national economic impact of trade is very important, the increased marketing opportunity for Nebraska is obviously tremendous as well. For Nebraska, this means the three trade agreements will increase exports by more than \$123 million per year. That's every year. Specifically for agriculture, the agreements with Panama, Colombia, and South Korea would lead to gains for Nebraska's major agriculture commodities, including beef, pork, soybeans and corn.

New markets create opportunities for farmers and ranchers along with the food processors, agri-businesses, transportation workers, and all the sales and related professionals who support the agriculture sector.

I want to make sure Nebraska products and producers make the most of opportunities provided by international sales and to increase exports. There's been enough delay. We certainly know that. And our market share in Colombia has already declined because of inaction. The debate is no longer simply about generating potential export gains, but also how to prevent the loss of existing export markets.

Thank you again. I appreciate this opportunity.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. I appreciate the gentleman from Nebraska talking

about the lost opportunities of delayed trade and the job opportunities of passing these three agreements with South Korea, Colombia and Panama, all of whom are dynamic economies we ought to be competing in.

I'm glad at this moment to yield to a gentleman from Illinois, a State that understands the importance of competing and winning around the world and that does so successfully.

I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DOLD).

Mr. DOLD. I want to thank the chairman for his leadership in trade, and certainly this is an important topic. Just last month, we were actually here in this Chamber when the President came down to talk about jobs and the economy. And there's no doubt it is the number one issue that faces our country today regardless of what side of the aisle you sit on.

The President got up and talked about his jobs package; and as opposed to saying, no, we don't want the jobs package, what I said and what a number of colleagues that I know have talked about is what are the areas that we agree upon. And let's focus on those and try to pass those because the American public is demanding that of us.

Certainly at the top of that list are the free-trade agreements. And when we talk about the free-trade agreements, it's trade promotion where we're actually setting the ground rules with foreign countries, where the United States can actually compete on a level playing field. And if we can complete on a level playing field, the American worker can win.

In the 10th Congressional District of Illinois, we've got 650 manufacturers that represent over 80,000 jobs. Of those 80,000 jobs, over 50,000 of those jobs rely upon exports. You've heard the statistics from some of my colleagues here today talking about 73 percent of the world's purchasing power is outside of the United States, and 95 percent of all consumers are outside of the United States.

Just this last week, I had a manufacturers' roundtable where part of the topic of discussion was demand. Well, if we want to increase demand, I would certainly argue that we need to be able to have access to markets outside of the United States. Just South Korea alone would add \$10 billion on to our GDP. For each additional billion dollars of exports, we create 6,250 jobs in America. That is a jobs plan. We can create additional jobs.

In Illinois, we've lost 750,000 manufacturing jobs over the last decade; and, frankly, we need to turn that tide around. We know in order to be competitive in the United States, the world is not going to sit back and wait for us. The EU has signed its free-trade agreement with South Korea, with Colombia and with Canada, and you've heard from others that the world is not going to wait. We're losing market share as we speak each and every day that we

don't act. We must move forward. It represents a significant amount to our GDP. And we all know that if we don't act now, we're going to lose jobs. It must be putting jobs first and foremost that's going to allow us to move forward for our country.

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So I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to stand up and embrace what the President has given to us. And I certainly appreciate the President sending us the free trade agreements. We told him we would act quickly. He sent them to us today, and today we're talking about them on the floor. We're going to act, and act swiftly, for the American people and for jobs.

Mr. Chairman, I thank you so much for your leadership on this very important issue. It's about jobs and the economy and putting American workers back to work.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. I appreciate the gentleman from Illinois, who comes from a State that understands trade means jobs. And I appreciate his leadership and effort in this area.

Minnesota is also a State that is growing and recovering from this economy because it knows how to sell American throughout the world, especially in medical technology and a number of other key sectors.

I'm glad to yield to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PAULSEN), a key member of the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. PAULSEN. I thank the gentleman for yielding. And I also thank you for your leadership on the Trade Subcommittee.

Mr. Speaker, there's no doubt with our economy struggling Washington should be doing everything it can to give our job creators the economic certainty that they need and they lack right now, including meaningful tax reform and alleviating government regulations. But the future of growth right now doesn't only lie in a more efficient bureaucracy or lower taxes, it also lies in giving greater export opportunities to emerging markets that are hungry—hungry for American products and our ideas.

The simple truth is that increased trade, new sales and new customers are a proven way to create jobs. These three pending free trade agreements with Panama, South Korea, and Colombia will level the playing field for American businesses, aid in our economic recovery, and allow the United States to compete and win. And with so much concern about skyrocketing deficits, increased free trade is a no-cost way to help the private sector create jobs.

In my home State of Minnesota, 60,000 jobs are dependent on global trade. Now surprisingly, it's not just our fertile soil in the ag community or the iron ore deposits up north that are creating most of these jobs. Ironically, over 90 percent of Minnesota's trade-

supported jobs come from the manufacturing sector. That's a true testament to the quality of Minnesota-made products and the workers who produce them.

Now, by passing these three free trade agreements, we will reduce the barriers in three countries, allowing 60,000 Minnesotans—and now others—the opportunity to find new sales and new customers for their products, giving the companies who employ them the opportunity to expand and start hiring again.

Now, this is about doubling exports, as the President has stated is his goal. Our Governor just led a trade delegation, actually, to South Korea with 24 different businesses. And in Minnesota, it's not just about agriculture. As the chairman just mentioned a second ago, I come from a State that has 400 medical device companies. It's these high-valued manufacturing opportunities that are huge opportunities for free trade and increased sales and customers.

So Mr. Speaker, today is a good day. The White House has formally submitted these trade agreements now. The Ways and Means Committee is going to act swiftly. The House will act swiftly. Over the past couple of months, there's no doubt that Europe has gained an upper hand by passing their own agreements with Panama, South Korea, Colombia and other countries, and in doing so, we've been leapfrogged. And now this is our opportunity to get back on a solid footing. Every day of inaction that has gone by has been a day where we're falling behind and we're losing our competitive edge and putting American jobs at risk.

So Mr. Speaker, I am excited to work in a bipartisan fashion to see this come together in the coming weeks ahead and give our manufacturers a boost, give our exporters a boost, and get our economy back on track.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. I appreciate the gentleman from Minnesota quickly leaping into this issue, recognizing the jobs potential, and his hard work in moving these trade agreements forward.

We have another speaker from Illinois, a key trade State. JUDY BIGGERT, a Congresswoman from Illinois, has long been a leader in trade, helping shepherd through Congress some of the key trade pacts in the past that have turned trade deficits into trade surpluses for America. She continues to be a leader who understands if we tear down these barriers for American companies, American jobs are produced.

I am proud to yield to the gentle lady from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT).

Mrs. BIGGERT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And I thank you so much for hosting this Special Order and all the work that you have done.

Given the extraordinary economic challenges that we face, I can't think of a better or more appropriate topic for Congress to be addressing here



today than trade. Let's face it, the pending free trade agreements with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea should have been enacted long ago. And only today, after years of delay, has the White House finally transmitted the agreement to Congress for ratification. As a result, we have been forced to wait while sales and jobs are lost to other countries that do not face the same trade barriers that U.S. exporters face. On many products, tariffs would have come down immediately upon enactment of these FTAs, giving a massive boost to our economy at a time when we need it more than ever.

In my home State of Illinois, I have visited with businesses like Hendrickson, Caterpillar, and Navistar, all major players holding their breath, ready to export millions of dollars of U.S.-made goods to new markets opened by these agreements. Right now in Illinois, a company like Caterpillar has to pay a \$200,000 tariff for just one heavy-duty earth mover going into Colombia, while Colombian exports come into the U.S. nearly duty free. That is \$200,000 that could instead stay in America with the free trade agreement and supply jobs in my district and nationwide. All told, these FTAs would support an estimated quarter-million American jobs and increase exports by \$13 million.

Perhaps most importantly, these aren't temporary or low-wage jobs that will disappear when taxpayer-funded stimuluses run dry. In fact, these exported-related jobs pay an average of 15 to 17 percent more than other comparable jobs and don't cost taxpayers a dime. And the benefits aren't limited to manufacturing. U.S. exports in services and agricultural goods stand to increase by billions of dollars.

Passing these agreements is one of the most common-sense, low-cost and economically sound things that Congress, in the President's own words, "could do right now" to boost job growth. And yet only today, after years on the President's desk, has the administration finally sent them to Congress for approval.

Fortunately, the end is in sight. With the agreements now in motion, the House and Senate will at long last have an opportunity in the coming days to pass all three pending agreements. I urge my colleagues to support them.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. I appreciate the gentlelady from Illinois, both for her long leadership role in trade and her remarks tonight.

San Antonio and southTexas, these communities understand a strong economy depends on strong trade. They are fortunate to have a freshman lawmaker who, in arriving in Congress, quickly realized—in fact, before he came to Congress—the need to get out and have a level playing field to compete and win for American companies and ranchers and agricultural interests throughout this country.

I'm glad and proud to yield to my Texas colleague from San Antonio (Mr. CANSECO).

Mr. CANSECO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to, first of all, thank Chairman KEVIN BRADY for his leadership on trade, and for organizing this very important Special Order.

Mr. Speaker, right now the number one concern of the American people is job creation. Over the past 2½ years, the Obama administration's solution for job creation has been nothing more than more spending, more borrowing, more taxing, and it simply has not worked. Instead of job creation, all that the American people have gotten is more debt.

Since the day he was sworn into office, President Obama has been sitting on a no-cost jobs solution in the form of our pending free trade agreements with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea. Together, these three agreements have the potential to create hundreds of thousands of new jobs by opening up the markets of our trading partners to U.S. exports, which would drive job creation and economic growth here at home.

Several of my colleagues have already spoken of the importance of these agreements, so I will discuss the importance of these agreements to my home State of Texas.

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While the Texas economy is very diverse, an important pillar is agriculture. In the 23rd District of Texas that I have the privilege of representing, the beef industry is a very important part of the economy, as is cotton.

All of these three pending trade agreements represent huge opportunities for Texas agricultural producers. For example, according to the United States Department of Agriculture, the Colombia agreement will eliminate the current 80 percent duty imposed on prime and choice cuts of beef, with all beef tariffs eliminated after 10 years. Cotton, another important agricultural export from Texas, will see Colombian tariffs on cotton imports completely eliminated once the agreement is passed.

In the case of Panama, U.S. beef exports that currently face tariffs of 10 to 30 percent will be immediately lifted for prime and choice cuts of beef, with the rest eliminated within 15 years.

The Korean agreement has the opportunity to be a huge windfall for agricultural exports. The United States Department of Agriculture estimates that the Korean agreement will increase annual exports to Korea by a minimum of \$1.9 billion upon full implementation. For U.S. beef exports, Korean tariffs will be completely phased out in 15 years. Cotton will see its current duty-free status become permanent, guaranteeing U.S. cotton producers will compete in Korea on a level playing field with other cotton-producing nations.

There is no doubt that all three pending free trade agreements are good for agricultural producers in Texas and in the United States. These agreements

are also good for the United States' service industries.

I am proud to say that I serve on the House Financial Services Committee. Currently, U.S. financial services providers face challenges to doing business in all three nations with which we have pending free trade agreements. The services industry in each nation is growing, and with passage of this agreement, American financial services firms will have better access and better ability to compete in a vibrant and growing market.

These agreements are also important to the United States' standing in the world. In particular, the Colombia agreement should be passed so that Colombia can serve as a counterweight to Hugo Chavez's Venezuela.

Despite all the benefits, at the end of the day, these agreements are about creating jobs here in the United States. Every day that we fail to pass these agreements, we fail to create jobs and economic activity that would exist had we already passed them.

At a time when we're seeing unemployment at its worst since the Great Depression, I am happy that President Obama finally decided to submit them for consideration, and I look forward to all three agreements receiving swift consideration in Congress and quickly becoming law shortly thereafter.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Congressman CANSECO, thank you for your leadership on this important jobs and trade issue.

Our next speaker is laser focused on jobs in Arkansas. He's made a big impact coming in as a freshman lawmaker, understands the need to find new customers.

I am proud to yield to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. GRIFFIN).

Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

"If America sits on the sidelines while other nations sign trade deals, we will lose the opportunity to create jobs on our shores." That was President Obama, President Obama in January of 2010, recognizing the importance of trade agreements to creating jobs in the United States.

Today, the President finally submitted to Congress, over a year and a half later, he finally submitted to Congress three critical trade agreements for our approval. Because of what these trade agreements mean for job creators, this is welcome news. But the fact that these three trade agreements, one of which was signed nearly a half decade ago, have been stalled for so long cannot go unnoticed.

Korea, the Korean trade agreement was signed on June 30, 2007. But that South Korean agreement is not the only one. The one with Panama was signed in June of 2007, and the one with Colombia, November of 2006.

President Obama even stated on July 8 of 2011 and during his August tour through the Midwest that all three of the trade agreements would be law by now if it weren't just for that obstructionist Congress. He said that the deals

are something “Congress could do right now.” Well, that’s not true. It wasn’t true then. We couldn’t pass the agreements because they were still on his desk waiting to be sent to Congress. Well, we’re glad they’re here now, and we will join the President in moving quickly on these agreements.

While we have waited on President Obama to act on these long-pending, job-creating export agreements, our foreign competitors—Europe and Canada, in particular—are rapidly increasing their market share and cultivating relationships with trading partners in those countries while American businesses sit on the sidelines.

Make no mistake: More American exports mean more American jobs.

In my home State of Arkansas and in the Second Congressional District, these trade agreements will be very helpful for job creation. Arkansas unemployment is above 8 percent, and we need pro-job creation policies in Washington to stop that from going even higher. We need pro-American export policies to sell more of our products overseas so that Arkansans get the jobs and our manufacturers and farmers get the business.

The three pending export agreements with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea will increase U.S. exports and will create over 250,000 new jobs. Right now, more than 320,000 Arkansas jobs depend on exports, and these agreements will only increase that number. Full implementation of the South Korea trade agreement alone could generate more than 2,500 new jobs in Arkansas.

Manufacturing exports are the strongest part of Arkansas’ economy. Exports directly support 14 percent of Arkansas’ manufacturing jobs, and 66,000 total jobs in all sectors of the economy are supported by manufactured goods exports.

Since 2003, Arkansas manufacturing exports rose twice as fast as the State’s overall economy. Seventy-seven percent of Arkansas exporters are small businesses. And, in fact, Arkansas exported over \$2 billion of manufactured goods to free trade partners in 2010. That’s 45 percent of Arkansas’ total. That number will only continue to grow with the approval of these agreements.

These agreements are critical not only to the country at large, but to Arkansas in particular. With 95 percent of the world’s consumers outside the United States, we now need to give American businesses the opportunity to build stronger trade ties with countries seeking our goods and services, the best goods and services in the world.

Now that the President has finally sent the three pending export agreements to Congress, we can pass them and help American companies compete and create jobs.

I am confident that Congress will act quickly to approve these important bills.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. I appreciate the gentleman from Arkansas laying out just the economic impact that these agreements have on the Arkansas communities, on ranchers, on businesses, small businesses, and on the economy as a whole.

Our next speaker is from Pennsylvania. He understands the importance of trade to his State. I’m pleased to welcome the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. I thank my good friend from Texas for hosting this and for yielding.

I’m very proud to be here tonight, a subcommittee chairman of the Agriculture Committee, to speak to the tremendous benefits that these three free trade agreements yield for all of agriculture across the United States.

Mr. Speaker, today America’s farmers and ranchers are competing in a global market in face of stiff protectionism while their foreign competitors are gaining preferential treatment and access at the American people’s expense.

It’s been a long time coming. While the delay was unacceptably long and likely has cost jobs, I’m pleased the Obama administration has finally done its part and sent Congress these important trade agreements, free trade agreements with Korea, Colombia, and Panama.

□ 2010

Many agricultural products have encountered dramatic price fluctuations in recent years, particularly dairy, as a result of depressed exports. These trade agreements will expand U.S. exports, create jobs, and bring much-needed income to communities across rural America.

These exports are increasingly important to Pennsylvania’s agricultural and statewide economy. Expanding these markets for our farmers, ranchers, and small businesses across the country is a critical component of future economic growth. Overall, every sector of Pennsylvania’s agriculture stands to benefit from each trade agreement.

Pennsylvania will benefit under the U.S.-Korea free trade agreement. The U.S.-Korea free trade agreement will benefit the Pennsylvania economy and create new jobs by immediately opening new access for Pennsylvania goods and services in Korea’s \$1 trillion economy and by establishing a level playing field in Korea for Pennsylvania workers and businesses to compete.

One-half of chemical products and many other manufactured goods produced in Pennsylvania will enter Korea duty-free immediately. Tariffs on the remaining chemical products will be eliminated over the next few years. Korean duties on major Pennsylvania agricultural products, such as grape juice, wine, and many dairy products, will be eliminated immediately. Mushrooms will become duty-free within 5 years. Simplified and expedited cus-

toms procedures will enable Pennsylvania businesses to reach Korean customers more quickly and with less red-tape.

Full implementation of the Korea trade agreement could generate nearly 280,000 new jobs, including 9,963 in Pennsylvania alone.

Pennsylvania will benefit under the U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement. Under the Colombia Free Trade Agreement, more than half of U.S. agricultural exports to Colombia will become duty-free immediately, and the remaining eliminated within 15 years. Colombia will eliminate its price band system which affects key U.S. exports, including corn, wheat, dairy, pork, and poultry. Tariffs of \$202 million in U.S. processed food product exports, which are currently as high as 20 percent, will be immediately eliminated. Colombia is actively pursuing and implementing free trade agreements with a number of other trading partners. With every day that we don’t act on this agreement, foreign competitors take market share from American farmers and ranchers.

Pennsylvania will benefit under the U.S.-Panama Free Trade Agreement. Panama is one of the fastest expanding economies in Latin America, with 7.5 percent growth in 2010. Panama is already an important market for America’s farmers and ranchers. In 2010, the United States exported more than \$450 million of agricultural products to Panama. More than half of U.S. agricultural exports to Panama will become duty-free immediately. Remaining tariffs will be removed over 15 years. Panama’s tariffs on poultry range from 5 percent to 260 percent. Some of these will immediately drop to zero, and others will be phased out within 15 years.

I am so pleased that we’re moving ahead with what will be great for agriculture and great for jobs in this country with these three free trade agreements. Mr. Chairman, thank you so much for hosting this tonight.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. I want to thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania again for his leadership on this bipartisan jobs issue. Again, the focus on creating jobs in communities in Pennsylvania by finding new customers is key to the growth of our economy and America’s wealth.

TOM REED is a new member of the Ways and Means Committee who has quickly established himself as one of our brightest stars on trade. He understands it means jobs to New York, and he knows that it means jobs to America as well. Earlier this year, he helped lead a letter from our freshman Republicans to the White House insisting the President submit these three agreements so we have a chance to compete and win around the world in these growing new markets.

I am proud to yield to a friend and a fellow member of the Ways and Means Committee, Mr. REED of New York.

Mr. REED. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

I rise today, even though feeling a little bit under the weather with an obvious cold, to show my support for these free trade agreements, because we have worked hard from day one in this Congress to be a voice for what I believe to be true free and fair trade agreements that put us and America on an even playing field with other countries around the world.

South Korea, Colombia, and Panama represent 250,000 jobs. It can't be any simpler than that. I listened to the President come up and present his jobs speech to us as we sat in this Chamber, and I heard my colleagues talk about the length of delay it took to get these agreements up to this House. But I'm not going to look to the past. I'm going to look to the future. And I'm going to look at the areas where we can find common ground to advance the cause of the great American economic recovery that could start and will start with the passage of these free trade agreements.

I applaud the President for sending these agreements up here today. I'm very confident that after a thorough and loud debate on these issues, they will be passed, and we will move forward to a brighter day of an additional 250,000 jobs in America and \$13 billion worth of enhanced economic activity for the American market. Back in the 29th Congressional District that I am proud to represent, that is real money, those are real jobs, and what we're going to talk about are improvements in our agricultural industry, be it our grape growers, be it our wine producers, be it our apple growers, be it our dairy industry.

But we're also proud in the 29th Congressional District to represent some of the highest tech and manufacturing operations in the entire world. A little company in the city that I come from, Corning, Incorporated, in Corning, New York, has had a longstanding business relationship in South Korea, producing LCD glass and other high-tech materials and manufacturing components.

To me, these free trade agreements are fair agreements and they lead to job creation. That's what we were sent here to Congress to do, is to put America in a better economic condition so that generations of tomorrow will have the prosperity to call this great Nation home for many generations to come.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for yielding.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Again, I appreciate the gentleman from New York for his leadership on this key jobs issue.

With so many Americans out of work, the President was standing in this Chamber not too many days ago urging Republicans and Democrats to come together to create new jobs. Can you imagine if there was an issue that the White House and Congress both agreed on, that Republicans and Democrats across the spectrum supported, a bill that created jobs not by government spending but by allowing the free market to do its work, to granting eco-

nomie freedom to Americans to buy and sell and compete in key markets throughout the world?

Well, today we have that issue. It is the three pending sales agreements with Korea, Colombia, and Panama. As we have said tonight, they represent almost \$13 billion of new sales for American companies, because we know we have to seek and compete and win around the world for these new customers. We know, too, that these agreements have been delayed far too long. Colombia is an old and trusted friend who's made remarkable progress in the economy, in labor rights, in human rights, in environmental issues. Today we're on the cusp finally of passing a free trade agreement that recognizes our security relationship and our economic relationship. Today we have that opportunity.

I thank the President for sending these agreements to us. As late as they were, the fact of the matter is he has made each of them better, has helped increase and improve bipartisan support for all three, but each day we delay, we lose jobs in America. Each day we delay, Canada and Europe and China and others move ahead of us, take our customers and our jobs. It's time for the delays to end. It's time for Republicans and Democrats to come together and pass these three trade agreements for America.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA'S 2012  
BUDGET REQUEST ACT—MES-  
SAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF  
THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC.  
NO. 112-62)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Pursuant to my constitutional authority and as contemplated by section 446 of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act as amended in 1989, I am transmitting the District of Columbia's 2012 Budget Request Act. This transmittal does not represent an endorsement of the contents of the D.C. government's requests.

The proposed 2012 Budget Request Act reflects the major programmatic objectives of the Mayor and the Council of the District of Columbia. For 2012, the District estimates total revenues and expenditures of \$10.9 billion.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, October 3, 2011.

□ 2020

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS  
HOUR

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BUCSHON). Under the Speaker's an-

nounced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Congressional Black Caucus is pleased, and we thank the Democratic leadership for allowing us, once again, to come to the floor for the Democratic hour.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. First of all, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to add extraneous material on the subject under discussion this evening.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. At this time, I am joined by two of my colleagues. I would like to yield to the gentlelady from Ohio, who, for 2 years religiously, had the responsibility in the last Congress to lead us in these Special Orders—with a lot of conviction and great information to share with the American people.

Congresswoman MARCIA FUDGE of Ohio.

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Representative CHRISTENSEN for anchoring today's timely CBC Special Order on unemployment in the African American community and on job creation.

It is no secret that the unemployment rate for African Americans is almost twice that of the national unemployment rate. Studies show that 16.7 percent of all African Americans are unemployed. It's probably closer to 20 percent when you take into consideration those who have given up looking for jobs or who are severely underemployed. In some cities, it is nearly three times the national unemployment rate.

Mr. Speaker, the people I represent are not talking about budget cuts, and they're not talking about continuing resolutions. The people in my community are talking about being laid off, and they're talking about losing their homes while they're still trying to provide food for their families. We are in a crisis that will undoubtedly affect our children and our grandchildren as 11 percent of all American children have at least one parent who is unemployed.

What does that mean for them?

It means fewer opportunities, and it means fewer meals.

As a Nation, we have always prided ourselves on defining "success" as providing a better future for our children. That's why my colleagues and I are speaking out today. That's why it is absolutely essential that we begin to make changes that will help our people get back on their feet. We must do something to create jobs, and we must do it now. I hosted a telephone town hall on the economy a few weeks ago.

Seven thousand people from around my district joined the call to ask questions about resources for small businesses or how to find job training programs. These people, like so many others, are looking for a way out of this situation, and it must come now.

It's clear to me that we have settled for short-term solutions to a problem that demands a long-term strategic resolution. We need to retrain workers for the jobs of today. Surprisingly, there are millions of positions that go unfilled in an economy where Americans are unemployed. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that there were 3 million job openings on the last business day of May 2011, yet the unemployment rate at that same time was 9.2 percent. There were enough jobs available to employ just over 20 percent of all of these unemployed Americans. So there is an obvious disconnect.

Many people searching for work lack the job-specific skills they need to be competitive for many of the job vacancies. Technology is outpacing the Nation's current approach to job-related education and training. The difference between white collar and blue collar jobs is fading because, traditionally, blue collar jobs are more specialized than ever before.

As a solution, I've introduced H.R. 2742, the Hire, Train, Retain Act of 2011. This bill will give employers tax incentives for hiring unemployed Americans and providing job training to fill job vacancies specific to that employer. Employers will also receive a "hire retention tax credit" of up to \$1,000 for each qualified employee retained for 52 weeks.

Another proven way to get Americans working is through infrastructure projects. That is why I recently introduced the School Athletic Facilities Restoration Act of 2011. This bill authorizes the allocation of grants to local educational agencies for the construction, renovation, or repair of school facilities used for physical education. The funds will facilitate construction hiring while improving safe places for children to exercise and play.

In closing, I want to mention that every single member of the Congressional Black Caucus has sponsored job creation legislation. The best way to reduce our deficit is to create jobs. That's why, in August, the CBC took our message on the road and connected job seekers with employers at job fairs across the country, and we listened to the voices of our constituents during town hall meetings.

Mr. Speaker, I came to Congress to be a voice for struggling Americans. My number one priority is job creation and economic development. I am working hard to create jobs, and time is of the essence. This is not a time for political posturing and partisan bickering. The American people need help. They need our help and they need it now.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Thank you, Congresswoman FUDGE, for that legislation and for your leadership on so many issues that are important to the people of this country.

I would next like to yield such time as she might consume to the former chair of the Congressional Black Caucus—again a leader on many, many issues, whether it be health care, global health, AIDS, as well as developing our agenda that we've continued even into this Congress of creating pathways out of poverty—Congresswoman BARBARA LEE of Oakland, California.

Ms. LEE of California. Let me thank my colleague, Congresswoman CHRISTENSEN, for those kind remarks and also for leading this Special Order, once again, in order to sound the alarm about the jobs crisis in our country.

Also, Congresswoman CHRISTENSEN, I want to thank you for your leadership on so many issues, especially on health care. You remind us of the importance of health care reform, not only because people deserve affordable, accessible health care, but because of the many jobs that will be created in the health care sector as a result of these reforms. So thank you for continuing to remind us of that, because many, many jobs are going to be created as a result of the work that you did.

Under the leadership of our very brilliant and bold chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, Chairman EMANUEL CLEAVER, and of our jobs task force chair, Congresswoman MAXINE WATERS, the Congressional Black Caucus has been hitting the street about jobs for some time now. We held five "for the people" jobs initiatives around the country—in Cleveland, Miami, Atlanta, Detroit, and Los Angeles—bringing together employers who have jobs with people who need jobs. The response was overwhelming. Thousands of people showed up at each event, all wanting to share their stories, to learn how to interview or network or to just strictly apply for a job.

As we know, communities of color are feeling this Great Recession more than others. In fact, for communities of color, especially in the African American community, the Great Recession has been more like the Great Depression. While the national average unemployment rate is 9.1 percent, the unemployment rate for African Americans is 16.7 percent reported. For Latinos, it's 11.3 percent—and that is for those who are reporting they're out there looking for work. If we consider those who have essentially stopped looking or who have given up on getting a job, we can probably double these numbers. It's very, very tragic.

For the people's jobs initiative, this initiative highlighted what is taking place throughout the Nation. People are desperately looking for jobs. People want to work. We must pass the American Jobs Act as a first step in addressing the jobs crisis that is sweeping the Nation. Sadly, the jobs crisis moves hand in hand with poverty. The Census

released some staggering numbers last month in its report, "Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2010." For example, 2.6 million Americans fell into poverty in 2010.

□ 2030

That's about 7,118 people a day falling into poverty. Let me put it another way: It's like a small town falling into poverty each and every day.

The poverty rates in 2010 that the census revealed are as shocking and as staggering as the unemployment numbers. The poverty rate for whites, non-Hispanics, was 9.9 percent; for African Americans, the poverty rate was 27.4 percent; the poverty rate for Latinos was 26.6 percent; and for Asian-Pacific Islanders, 12.1 percent.

In 2010, 15.1 percent of Americans were living in poverty. Now, that's 46.2 million people, in the wealthiest and most powerful country in the world, 46 million people living in poverty, and 9.1 percent are unemployed. Creating jobs will improve our Nation's economy and provide people pathways out of poverty.

We need to target Federal programs to communities most in need, and we can do this by using particularly the data sets like those from the census to target programs with the highest unemployment rates and the highest poverty rates. We can extend and should extend the Emergency Unemployment Compensation program and the Extended Benefits Unemployment program, both of which expire early in 2012. If we don't, millions of unemployed Americans will no longer have a safety net until jobs are created. Remember, for every four unemployed workers seeking a job, only one job exists. That is a fact.

We also need to pass H.R. 589, which I introduced with a fellow CBC member, a good friend, a great leader, Congressman BOBBY SCOTT, which gives an additional 14 weeks of unemployment benefits to those eligible people who have exhausted their benefits and no longer receive this support.

We have no idea today how these people are surviving in these devastating times, and we can and must continue to support them while we work to create jobs. Speaker BOEHNER still will not move this bill to the floor for a vote and, once again, I am going to encourage the Republican leadership to bring H.R. 589 to the floor.

We also must restore the TANF emergency contingency fund and increase the amount of money going to this program, which directly supports needy families with the basics and creates jobs. We also should develop and implement various corps, similar to those implemented through the Work Projects Administration, the Public Land Corps, and the Civilian Conservation Corps aimed at programs and services needed in communities across this country, including health care corps, public safety corps, community corps, and teacher corps.

We should expand the Workforce Investment Act aimed at young people, particularly the 25 percent of teenagers and young people who are unemployed today—in the African American community over 40 percent, all losing hope for their futures.

We should extend and support the expansion of on-the-job training for unemployed workers, including those who are long-term unemployed and those who have exhausted their unemployment benefits, to help them refresh their job skills and ease their reentry into the workforce. We know that these initiatives will put people back to work, and that is what the Congressional Black Caucus continues to fight for.

We have to fight against the Republican opportunistic attacks on the environment and the regulations that protect the environment and public health which, of course, they are claiming as a jobs program.

It's no jobs program. In fact, turning back the clock on the Clean Air and Clean Water Act will simply destroy jobs across the country, along with destroying our precious, natural resources, while placing human health in danger.

It's completely misguided. It's a terrible move by the Republicans. They are turning a blind eye to the needs of Americans and the needs of our economy.

Now, the most effective anti-poverty program is an effective jobs program, and the CBC has been working to create jobs and connect people to jobs. We are not going to back down. And as the CBC has done for 40 years, we are going to continue to fight for jobs, justice, and equality. Our voice as the conscience of the Congress is needed now more than ever.

So I want to thank, again, Congresswoman DONNA CHRISTENSEN, Chairman EMANUEL CLEAVER, Congresswoman MAXINE WATERS and all of our CBC members for bringing us together to conduct this jobs tour, to speak out tonight, each and every day on this floor, in our communities on the critical issue of jobs, and to remind the Congress that people do want to work and we should hurry up and pass the American Jobs Act as a first start.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Thank you, Congresswoman LEE. You were the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus as we created and passed the Affordable Care Act. And without your determination, many of the important provisions that we felt were important to our communities and to communities across our country would not have been there. We thank you for that.

And thank you for reminding us that the Affordable Care Act is a jobs bill. It is reported that it may produce as many as 4 million jobs. And so it's not only a bill, an act, a law that would allow over 30 million people to finally become insured and provide access to quality health care for many people

who have never had it, but it will also create jobs.

It's interesting how health care is connected to so many of the other things that we are dealing with. Two of the most important things that have to be fixed, if we are to get out of this recession: We have to create jobs, and we have to fix the foreclosure crisis.

There was an article in *The New York Times* today by Craig E. Pollack and Julia F. Lynch that was entitled "Foreclosures Are Killing Us," and it caught my eye. I just want to read a little piece of it into the RECORD:

"A growing body of research shows that foreclosure itself harms the health of families and communities. In our 2008 survey of 250 people undergoing foreclosure in the Philadelphia area, 32 percent reported missing doctors' appointments and 48 percent said they let prescriptions go unfilled, significantly higher rates than others in their community. A paper released last month by the National Bureau of Economic Research found that people living in high-foreclosure areas in New Jersey, Arizona, California, and Florida were significantly more likely than those in less hard-hit neighborhoods to be hospitalized for conditions like diabetes, high blood pressure, and heart failure.

"More than one-third of homeowners in our study had symptoms of major depression." The N.B.E.R. study found significantly more suicides also.

So these issues and these problems that affect, in large part, minority, racial, and ethnic minority populations are responsible for some of the health disparities that we talk about.

Ms. LEE of California. Will the gentlelady yield?

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. I yield to the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. LEE of California. I am very pleased that you raised this article because the human toll, the physical and mental health impact of these horrific public policies that either have taken place over the last 8 years or that are not taking place that we should enact are really seen each and every day in our communities every day, and people are desperate, they are suffering. And for the life of me I don't understand why especially Tea Party Republicans don't get it, because their people are suffering also.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Absolutely, absolutely.

We have been joined by another former chair of the Congressional Black Caucus and the leader of our Health Care Task Force, Congresswoman MAXINE WATERS, and I would like to yield such time as she might consume to her.

Ms. WATERS. Thank you very much, Congresswoman DONNA CHRISTENSEN. I am very pleased that you took this time out this evening to give us an opportunity to continue to focus on our top priority in the Congressional Black Caucus. We are absolutely focused like a laser beam on the fact that jobs are needed so desperately in all of these communities that we represent.

We recognize that unemployment is unprecedented, at its highest levels perhaps since the 1980s across this country, with 9.1 percent being that of the country. But we also recognize that in minority communities it is so much higher; in the Latino community, 11.3 percent; in the African American community, 16.7 percent.

Why are we focused like a laser beam on this issue? Because we understand the pain that is going on. We understand the increasing desperation. We understand the growing hopelessness and, as public policymakers, we must do everything that we possibly can not only to do actual job creation, but to help people out there understand that we know what's going on. We feel their pain, and we are prepared to do everything possible to come to their aid.

□ 2040

So there are those who may get tired of us talking about it. There are those who wonder why we took our vacation time and traveled across this country in five cities with these job fairs and town halls that we did, but it is all because we understand, perhaps better than others, this pain and this desperation and this feeling of hopelessness; and that's not good for this country.

So you're absolutely correct. The Congressional Black Caucus went to Detroit. We went to Cleveland. We went to Miami. We went to Atlanta. And we went to California, Los Angeles. And what did we see? As it has been said over and over again, thousands upon thousands of people in line desperate to be able to talk with employers.

I must extend a big thank you to employers. They heard our call and they showed up. And they were at each of these meetings, these job fairs that we had; and people were able to fill out applications, to learn what the process is for that particular employer, to be able to talk with someone. And I had job seekers in Los Angeles who said to me: Ms. WATERS, you know, I may not get a job, but I appreciate the opportunity that the Congressional Black Caucus is affording me and others to be able to take a shot at it, to be able to talk with someone.

So in Los Angeles, in my own community, 10,000 people showed up. We organized it in ways that they wouldn't have to stand in line for long periods of time; and thanks to the Crenshaw Christian Center that has the Faith Dome that holds 10,000 people, we were able to get people off that sidewalk through that dome and to those employers where we set up tents for 170 employers who came behind the dome, and it worked very well.

Congresswoman, I want you to know this past weekend, as I traveled throughout the area, people came up to me and said: Ms. WATERS, I got a job. I can't tell you how great that made me feel. And, of course, it was only a small number of people that I encountered. But just to have them say, thank you,

I received a job, was extremely impressive and inspiring and made me feel so very, very good. We are going to follow up with the employers and have them feed us back the information about how many people they were able to hire so that we can give a report on that.

But in all of this, I am so worried that the unemployment in the African American community may reach as high as 20 percent. Our communities have been hit hard. I heard you allude to the foreclosures that we're experiencing in our communities. Our communities were targeted. They were targeted by financial institutions because they saw that people were eager to have homes. They understood that if you gave people an opportunity, that they would take advantage of it. But what they didn't say was that they were coming up with all of these exotic products, products that literally got people into homes, but it could not be sustained because of the way these products were organized.

You had people who were told: you don't have to pay anything down; you just have to pay a little down. Don't worry about the resets; don't worry about what will happen 2 years from now. And these exotic products were products that had the devil in the details. And so people entered into mortgages they certainly could not afford down the road; and so our communities are overwhelmed with foreclosures, the loss of wealth, the loss of the only wealth that many of our families certainly had and could ever have for years to come.

I just want to share with you, in addition to the joblessness and the foreclosures and the loss of homes, the median wealth of white households is 20 times that of black households and 18 times that of Hispanic households, according to a Pew Research Center analysis of newly available government data from 2009.

These lopsided wealth ratios are the largest since the government began publishing such data in 1984, and roughly twice the size of the ratios that had prevailed between these three groups for the two decades prior to the Great Recession that ended in 2009. The median wealth of United States households in 2009 was \$113,149 compared to \$5,677 for blacks and \$6,325 for Hispanics. The percentage of African Americans with no wealth has increased. About 35 percent of black households and 31 percent of Hispanic households have zero or negative net worth in 2009 compared with 15 percent of white households.

Basically, just looking at the joblessness and the lack of wealth, the decreasing wealth tells the story. No communities can survive under these conditions. Everybody must be concerned about unemployment in general, but specifically these communities that are so bad off under the situation and the environment that we're living in at this time. So we support

the jobs bill. We want to create jobs in our infrastructure. This country needs to repair its roads and its bridges and its water systems, and we believe that creating those jobs will help all of our communities, not only get jobs but put money back into the economy.

The economy needs stimulating. You stimulate the economy not by cut, cut, cuts, but by investing in the economy, both the private sector and the public sector. So we've got to fight for it. We've got to stand up. We've got to resist any Tea Party efforts that say that they came to Congress to dismantle government and they want to cut, cut, cut. They will not support anything that will raise revenues, or even maintain revenues in some instances. We've got to push back on that. We've got to be strong. We've got to say to our colleagues: the facts are clear; they are in front of you. Nobody can deny these facts, and we're asking you to join with us in making sure that not only we deal with the most vulnerable in our society, but we pay attention to all of those who are suffering and the families that are suffering.

I want to tell you, I have witnessed that some of our friends on the opposite side of the aisle who represent very poor communities don't seem to be able to rise to the occasion to offer them support. It seems to me that they can basically talk about and inflame issues that have nothing to do with the economic well-being of their constituents. And so we have to keep reminding them that this is for everybody. This is for your constituents that you're not really representing, those poor people in rural communities who don't have health care clinics, those poor people who don't have jobs, those poor people who don't have the kind of education that they should have.

So thank you for bringing us to the floor this evening to once again put the focus on jobs, jobs, jobs.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Thank you, Congresswoman WATERS, and thank you for the work that you've done to ensure that our financial regulatory agencies have women and minorities on their boards, for the work that you've done to help homeowners stay in their homes and address the mortgage crisis, and for all that you do.

You know, even though many of the people who came to those fairs didn't get a job, they got hope, and many of them had given up. I'm sure that re-energized them to go out and keep looking. If they didn't get a job then, they will get one. Thank you so much for your leadership on that.

I'd like to yield now to the gentleman from Michigan, Congressman HANSEN CLARKE. Thank you for joining the ladies this evening.

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. You're very welcome, Representative CHRISTENSEN. What I wanted to do was, on behalf of all metro Detroiters, I wanted to thank the Congressional Black Caucus and, in particular, our chairperson, Representative MAXINE

WATERS, the head of our Jobs Task Force, for coming to Detroit and giving folks in Detroit some chance of getting a job and definitely some hope that they have a future for themselves.

This was so important for me because years ago back in the 1980s when we had our last big recession, I was one of those guys who was unemployed. What happened was I did give up hope for a moment there, and it was devastating for me after I lost my income and then my food stamps were cut off. When you give someone the dignity that they realize they have something to offer themselves, their family and their city, it doesn't matter if they don't get a job at that interview. They will have then the drive to fight for themselves and not to give up. That's why our people are still here thriving because we didn't give up. But that jobs session did show that there are a lot of folks in Detroit who still need a job.

□ 2050

And I have introduced legislation to help provide those jobs opportunities to Detroiters. And if I could, I wanted to share with you and then share with our public how that would work. When you visited Detroit, Representative WATERS, you may have noticed we had all these big parcels of vacant land with just nothing on it or maybe some burnt-down houses or buildings. We could actually build plants on those properties as we built plants back decades ago in World War II that housed the arsenal of democracy that saved this world from fascism and helped us win World War II, those same plants that build those great American-made automobiles that put Detroiters to work but also put millions of Americans back to work.

So in the same way, we have the land to attract these new plants. We also have roads that have all these potholes in them that need to be filled. We have bridges, we have water systems that need to be repaired, we have a plan for a transit system that could connect Detroit with the suburbs, help people get to jobs in the suburbs, help folks in the suburbs come to Detroit and enjoy themselves; but we need matching money to be able to do that.

What businesses have told me and what families have told me is that they moved out of Detroit for a couple of simple reasons. Number one, they didn't feel safe in the city. So it didn't matter how many economic development incentives we provided businesses; few businesses would take those incentives if they felt that their office would be broken into or their employees would be robbed.

Similarly, businesses that had to hire a large number of people, folks that they didn't know, they were concerned that the Detroit public schools really didn't graduate folks that had the ability to work on the job, that had the ability to read and write adequately to be able to do a good job if they were hired.

And then, finally, because Detroit had overspent a lot of its money and they had to finance that deficit with bonds and then pay off those bonds by raising the property tax, a lot of businesses said, look, for the services I'm getting, the taxes are too high. On top of it, many of their employees, even if they lived in the suburbs, had to pay a city income tax, definitely the residents had to do that.

So I said, look, the taxes are too high. If the perception is that the city is dangerous, I'm not sure if we are going to hire qualified people. They decided to leave the city. Safe streets, good schools, low taxes. If we could have those pieces in place, we could attract all the business. And I'll tell you why we could, because in spite of all of our challenges in Detroit, we still have the best manufacturing know-how in this country and in this world. We have the trained workforce to put our State back to work and our country back to work. But we just need the money to hire the police officers, to hire the school teachers, to pay off our debt and cut our taxes.

Now, this Congress says we don't have the money. But I say we do. It's in the very Federal taxes that Detroit individuals and Detroit businesses pay every year; \$2 billion a year Detroiters pay to the Federal Government, to the IRS in Washington. My bill, House bill 2920, would ask this Congress to say this: instead of sending Detroit tax dollars to Washington, D.C., let's redirect that money to Detroit, place it in a trust fund where it can't be touched, only to go to projects that will create jobs, to retire our debt, to hire police officers, to hire school teachers to keep our school buildings open longer, high-quality schools, and, yes, to cut taxes to eliminate our city income tax and reduce our property taxes. That would attract jobs back.

And then we would have the money to fix up those roads, repair the deteriorating water system, and train people for jobs and then possibly even create a job program like the CETA job program that I got hired into that saved me, that saved me from a life that my friends ended up in—prison, incarcerated, on drugs, or dead. Those programs that this Congress stood for 30 years ago helped save my life, and it can help save this country.

So I want to thank you for giving me this time to speak before the body. Detroit, we've got the money to put our people back to work. We pay it to the IRS every year. I'm asking this Congress to allow us to keep our money for 5 years, to put our people back to work as a pilot basis, and to show this country what Detroit can do for itself and for America. Thank you so much, and God bless you.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Thank you, Congressman CLARKE. Your passion is clear, and Detroit doesn't have a stronger advocate than you, and we are pleased to be a co-sponsor of your bill. Thank you for joining us.

As you've heard, the Congressional Black Caucus is here this evening. We're still waiting for the first jobs bill to pass this Congress. And as you've heard from my colleagues, we need to begin with the American JOBS Act which was proposed by our President Barack Obama. And just to be clear, while we're advocates for the African American community, we are advocates for everyone; and this bill is good for everyone, everyone who lives in this country, and it is a good bill for our country.

We happen to feel that putting people back to work in this country now is more important than fighting over an election that is more than a year away. The American JOBS Act provides tax cuts that will help businesses grow and create jobs, it will help provide incentives to hire the long-term unemployed, and it will keep teachers and other essential workers like police and firefighters in their jobs where we need them to be; and it will strengthen, repair, and build needed and faulty infrastructure and in doing so will create even more jobs; and it will give people a decent job which will allow them to take care of their families, to buy what we make here in America, and it will stimulate economic growth.

It would give every American worker and their family a tax cut through extending the tax payroll tax holiday and do more to fix the mortgage crisis that got us here in the first place by allowing more refinancing of mortgages. It would help our fellow Americans take better care of their families, putting their children in better schools, supporting small businesses, building consumer confidence and spurring the spending that our economy needs to get back on track. This is what this Congress ought to be doing, not focusing on the solitary goal of making President Obama a one-term President. That is a losing proposition anyway.

No one should be willing to let our fellow Americans suffer, fall into and become mired in poverty, remain unemployed, lose homes and to cause our economy to crumble further just because they have political and whatever other differences with our President.

Mr. Speaker, the Republican leadership, led by the Tea Party extremists, are taking this country in the absolute wrong direction by insisting on cutting and cutting and cutting important programs and services like the Women, Infants and Children program, Maternal and Child Health and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance programs at a time when there are more people and more children in poverty, by working to deny the opportunity for health care to the over 30 million people who we worked so hard to get insured, including sick children, and people who would otherwise go bankrupt because of catastrophic illnesses over which they had no control, people who are already getting care because of the Affordable Care Act that is being so wrongly maligned.

I agree with some of the posters I saw in the newspaper this weekend calling for jobs, not cuts; jobs, not cuts. That is what we have been saying all year, including here on the floor of the House every Monday that we've been in session. If our leadership listened instead of talk, talk, talk, I believe that is what they will hear the American people at large are saying: jobs, not cuts.

And we have a golden opportunity to listen to them. For over the last 2 weeks, there has been an "occupation of Wall Street" because while homeowners and pensioners and many people have suffered because of their meltdown, we have not seen the kind of remedies for the folks on Main Street, the side streets or the rural roads that would make them whole. They are speaking loudly and effectively on their and on our behalf.

And then right here in Washington, D.C. today and for the next 3 days the Take Back the American Dream conference is here. They will be on the Hill on Wednesday calling on us to end the nightmare that the dream is turning into for far too many people and to restore the American Dream access which has been the hallmark and the pride of this country.

What is happening at this conference and the one in New York is that Americans are saying enough is enough. And they are fighting back against the cuts that are making it hard for far too many people in this country to survive.

□ 2100

They're fighting back against attempts to repeal health care reform, fighting back against proposals that would weaken Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid, and fighting back against voter suppression laws. They're fighting for jobs, for a future for our children, and they're fighting for our democracy.

It is so very interesting this talk about President Obama and Democrats waging class warfare all because we want everyone in this country to do their part to help this country recover from a deep recession, all because we want to let tax cuts that were only supposed to be around for 10 years that have now been extended to 12 years finally expire like they were supposed to. Come on, colleagues, let's be honest. They were never meant to be permanent.

And how many jobs have these tax cuts created as was loudly touted they would do? In 2001, at the end of the Clinton administration, he handed over this government with an over \$2 trillion surplus. Now, after those tax cuts enacted in 2001, after almost 12 years of them, we are in record deficits and the worst recession since the Great Depression. And President Obama did not create that; he inherited it.

The poverty rate is at the second highest in 45 years, and it is hitting, as you've heard, African Americans and Latino Americans hardest. The share

of Americans in deep poverty, with incomes below half of the poverty line, is at the highest level ever recorded. And African Americans are more likely to be in extreme poverty.

While we hear a lot about how much of a share of taxes the richest 1 percent or the richest 10 percent pay, let me remind everyone that white Americans' wealth is 20 times—and you heard it earlier, but it bears repeating—20 times that of African Americans and 18 times that of Latinos. And that between 2000 and 2007, not 10 percent, not 20 percent, not 40 percent, but 100 percent, all of the increase in wealth went to the top 10 percent in this country—all, the top 10 percent. The gap between rich and poor got wider. The rich got richer; the poor got poorer. That's a very dangerous trend for the future of this country.

And then unemployment has reached record highs as well. You don't hear about it much. You hear it from us. But in far too many places, our rural and our urban areas, communities of color, unemployment remains in double digits. African American unemployment nationally is over 16 percent, but as you've heard, we know that it is higher than that in many parts of our country.

So if we want to talk honestly about class warfare, class warfare is what too many people in this country have been experiencing since 2001. And now that we have a President who wants to end it, he is being accused of class warfare. If we really want to end class warfare, my colleagues, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle should be supporting rather than opposing him. Let's get real.

In all of our 40 years, the Congressional Black Caucus has always been a caucus of action. Our agenda has been consistent, and we've pushed every Congress and every President. And so we resent anyone trying to put a wedge between us and our President to further their own agenda, one which is clearly not ours.

But we continue to be the conscience of the Congress, as MAXINE WATERS coined when she was chair, the "fairness cops of our Nation." That is why, when we could see none of our 40 job-creating bills come to the floor under the leadership of our chairman, EMANUEL CLEAVER, and the Jobs Task Force chair and former CBC chair, MAXINE WATERS, we called on the private sector as well as government agencies to come with us across the country to get people working again. And that is why we worked so hard with our Hispanic and Asian colleagues to get the Affordable Care Act passed. And we will work just as hard to see that it gets implemented. We are not going to sit quietly and let a vital door that is just opening for many to be slammed shut in our communities and communities like ours who need it most.

Many scholarly reports have shown that just eliminating health disparities could save \$1.24 trillion in just over 4

years in indirect and direct costs, in addition to saving lives. So if we really wanted a deficit reduction, eliminating health disparities and achieving health equity is deficit reduction at its best.

And that's why we will continue to work relentlessly as a caucus to save homes, to build and equip better schools, to support regulations that protect our families and all families from the health and other effects of pollution. We have also worked together on budgets. And because we know that our country can invest where needed in health care, education, green energy, and job creation and reduce the deficit at the same time, we are preparing to send our recommendation to the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction. It will likely be based on our proposed 2012 budget. And it will end class warfare by allowing the high-end Bush tax cuts to expire while strengthening the middle class, continuing to create pathways out of poverty for our fellow Americans, and protecting Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid.

This country, Mr. Speaker, is fortunate to have a Congressional Black Caucus fighting on its behalf. And it is not only our duty, but it's our honor and privilege to do so.

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

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, the American people made it abundantly clear what they expected from the 112th Congress. They expect us to stop fighting each other and to do the right thing for the country.

However, instead of doing that, the Republican majority has done the exact opposite by engaging in partisan political games that cost the U.S. our triple-A credit rating, resulted in several near government shutdowns and nearly led to the first national default in our history.

These actions don't reflect the American people's will, but rather the priorities of the Republican leadership of the House. The American people have done everything they can to make it clear, but Mr. Speaker, allow me to repeat their refrain: Jobs!

Last month, President Obama unveiled his vision for job creation in the United States. While I would like to see a bit more with regards to direct job creation, it is a good start to addressing our nation's high unemployment, a rate that hovers around 16 percent for African American communities.

Mr. Speaker, the Congressional Black Caucus has been at the forefront of the call for jobs legislation in the 112th Congress. The CBC put together a nationwide jobs fair to not only bring attention to the appalling unemployment numbers in the black community and help bring those seeking jobs together with employers, but to turn up the volume on a national crisis that has taken a back seat to the majority's favored approach of simply cutting our way to prosperity.

Would you believe Mr. Speaker, that just today, the Majority Leader said that the House would not be holding a vote on the American Jobs Act; saying that voting on the complete package was "unreasonable".

Mr. Speaker, what Americans find "unreasonable" is that the Republican majority is, once again, going to allow the American peo-

ple to continue to suffer through our national jobs nightmare and continue in their insistence to not bring a single jobs bill to the floor.

What, Mr. Speaker, is the majority afraid of? Are they afraid that the American people, recognizing that this could be the start toward resolving our national unemployment tragedy? Is the Republican leadership so afraid of the tea party that they are willing to allow continued national misery to satisfy a minority of their caucus?

Regardless, as Members of Congress we represent the concerns of our constituents and I know what my constituents are telling me. They are telling me that Congress needs to get its act together and start focusing on the priorities of the American people and not those of a tiny, radical fringe of the majority.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, for the past 40 years the Congressional Black Caucus, has earned the reputation as the conscience of the Congress by providing a voice for the voiceless and fighting for the forgotten. This summer, we worked diligently to live up to and maintain our reputation.

To address unemployment and the need for job creation solutions in underserved communities, the Congressional Black Caucus called upon private and public sector partners to immediately remedy the crisis by going into communities with legitimate, immediate employment opportunities for the underserved with the "For the People" Jobs Initiative—which included nationwide town halls and job fairs.

During the month of August, nearly half of the Congressional Black Caucus traveled the country and saw firsthand how unemployment continues to devastate our communities during the "For the People" Jobs Initiative.

Nearly 30,000 people from all walks of life attended CBC Jobs Initiative events in Cleveland, Detroit, Atlanta, Miami, and Los Angeles.

Given the substantial coverage of the events, our nation's citizens will have great difficulty saying they were unaware of the suffering of millions of unemployed Americans.

Like us, they too saw the lines wrapped around city blocks with hopeful citizens searching for a job opportunity to provide economic security for themselves and their families.

We all know that job fairs and town halls are not sufficient to address the jobs crisis; however, it is a small step in the right direction.

The unemployment numbers released in August demonstrate that there is a significant hemorrhage in the African American community that is not being addressed, which has resulted in extremely high job loss.

Overall unemployment remains stagnant at 9.1 percent while unemployment in the African American community has risen dramatically from 15.9 percent to 16.7 percent.

Well into the 112th Congress, the Congressional Black Caucus continues to urge the Republican Leadership to address unemployment in any meaningful way.

We cannot afford to watch a segment of our community suffer from depression level unemployment, hoping that overall solutions will trickle down and fix the problem. It is clear that method will not work.

Therefore, the Members of the CBC unanimously co-sponsored and introduced the Congressional Black Caucus "For the People" Jobs Initiative Resolution (H. Res. 348) to urge the House of Representatives to immediately consider and pass critical jobs legislation.



Additionally, CBC members have introduced over fifty job creation bills since the beginning of the 112th Congress, launched a national jobs initiative, and provided nine job creation proposals targeting our nation's most vulnerable communities in this document.

We believe that through Creating, Protecting, and Rebuilding those who have suffered relentlessly from our country's great recession would be granted another chance at perusing the American dream.

We stand at a critical point in our nation's history. The time for bold action on jobs is now.

Every American has the right to be gainfully employed and CBC Members will not rest until there is equality in access to jobs and economic opportunity.

#### CURRENT EVENTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 30 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I know my friend from the Virgin Islands and I have differences on political issues, but she was very gracious to me personally and I will always be grateful, very grateful. Thank you.

We do differ on some of the issues. And hearing my friend across the aisle from Michigan (Mr. CLARKE), he wants what's best for his constituents. He wants them to have jobs. He wants them to have less taxes. He wants them to be able to revitalize their city. And that is what people want on both sides of the aisle. We just have a difference of opinion on the best way to go about it.

My friend from California said that the Tea Party really didn't want anything that will raise revenues. And I know she believes that, but the contrary is actually true. And what we have seen historically is, when you create jobs, even if the tax rate is lowered, if you do something that creates jobs, then the tax rate increases.

Some people have tried to vilify me because I'm advocating getting rid of a rather insidious—I sometimes think it is the most insidious tax we have because it has convinced rank-and-file folks across America that they don't have to pay this tax, some greedy, nasty corporation will pay the corporate tax, when the truth is the corporations are nothing but collection agents. If they don't collect the tax by adding on price to the cost of their product, to the price of their services, they don't stay in business. They're a collection agent. So the fact is, if you were to drop that tariff that we lay on our own products—it's a 35 percent tax. It's really a tariff. You eliminate that and jobs come rushing back into America.

The number one reason you get when you travel around the world—whether it's Africa, China. Others tell me from South America, Hey, we had to move because America has the highest cor-

porate tax of any country in the world, 35 percent. China is 17 percent. So you lower that tariff that corporations have to collect on their goods, jobs would come flooding back, and we could see Detroit become the car capital that it once was and that it should be. We would see those jobs come back.

In first questioning CEOs overseas, the number one answer I would get on why they moved was too much regulation. Well, that was a problem. Difficulty in dealing with unions or too high wages compared to what people get around the world, that was a problem.

□ 2110

It wasn't the number one problem. The number one problem was the 35 percent corporate tax, a tariff we put on all American-made goods.

I've had people who, apparently, with degrees, are educated beyond their abilities, say, but if you lowered or got rid of the corporate tax, where would all that tax money come from? Because they don't understand how jobs are created. They think that money, it's a zero sum balance. It just would go away, and there would be no more tax. We'd lose that much tax.

And, in fact, the liberal Congress that existed in 1974 when they set up CBO and set up their rules for scoring bills does not allow the Congressional Budget Office to score based on reality. They are forced to score under archaic, unrealistic rules that are not allowed to take into consideration past history in calculating future performance. Huge mistake. But the Democrats in charge in 1974 knew what they were doing.

So you drop that tax. And, like I've said, the American Jobs Act is my bill. After the President beat up on us for 6 days, and it became very obvious he was more concerned about making speeches about American Jobs Act than he was actually getting one filed and getting one pushed through, then I felt like, if he's going to criticize me and our friends here for not passing the American Jobs Act, by golly, there ought to be one. So I did file one, and that's what it does.

I'm negotiable. If the President would like to come up zero in corporate tax, I'm flexible. But the fact is, jobs would come rushing back into this country if the manufacturers, if the companies knew no corporate tariff is put on those products. They could compete around the world; we would retake the world.

I know there are people in this country, good folks, smart folks, that think we are better off as a service-oriented society in America, rather than a manufacturing society. The trouble with that is, and as I heard from people in West Africa last year, we're their hope for freedom. If we don't remain strong, as one elderly gentleman told me, they have no chance of enjoying freedom in this life.

Well, you can't be an international power and protect freedom, not here,

not anywhere, unless you can produce the things that are needed in the event of war. That's why I'm an advocate for natural gas being used to power cars. We need to make sure it's safe, but it's cleaner burning.

Some people say, no, we've got to get cars that run on electricity. They don't apparently realize that electricity has to be generated somewhere, and it's obvious that Solyndra's not going to be producing it for us. Maybe if we give them several trillion dollars instead of just 600 billion, maybe eventually they could come up with a product that would compete, but that hasn't happened.

So mistakes have been made. Mistakes get made on both sides of the aisle. Republicans made a mistake in '05 and '06, my freshman term here, and I have to say that our friends across the aisle rightfully beat up on us back in 2006 for spending \$160 billion more than we took in. We shouldn't have done that. And they promised they would get spending down under control and would not run a deficit like that if they were simply given the majority. They were for 4 years, and the spending went through the roof.

Republicans made a mistake by spending more than was coming in by \$160 billion. And then our friends across the aisle made a mistake over the last 4 years as they got that spending up over \$1 trillion, \$1.5 trillion more than we were bringing in. Major mistake.

But I want to spend the remainder of my time tonight in talking about another problem that we've had here in the United States and with the Federal Government. There's been a lot of talk the last few days about the death of Anwar al-Awlaki. And it is important to note the things that we were told in past years about Mr. Awlaki.

Pajamas Medium, that's a funny name, but Patrick Poole has done a good job doing some research on some of the old articles. For example, back in November of 2001 The Washington Post—let's see, I think they're going after our Governor from Texas right now.

Well, that same Washington Post had a wonderful blog back in November of 2001 and featured none other than Imam Anwar al-Awlaki. And he was allowed to use The Washington Post to try to convince people of what a man of peace he was. And you get the impression, certainly, The Washington Post said he was a good guy.

You can look back, again, November 19, 2001. And I printed this off of the Internet from The Washington Post. Understanding Ramadan, the Muslim month of fasting. And they featured Imam Anwar al-Awlaki.

Now, obviously, The Washington Post doesn't care much for the Governor of Texas, but they certainly had a great appreciation for the man that was killed recently, featuring him in their publication to explain things for us. And they featured him explaining

that, about Ramadan. Isn't that wonderful that The Washington Post would reach out to someone who it turns out wanted to destroy America, our way of life, thought it was a good idea to kill Americans, believed that actually it would be a good thing to bring down America. It was good The Washington Post would give him that much time because they're so open-minded, honorable people. So are they all, all honorable people, as Shakespeare had Mark Anthony saying.

All those folks at The Washington Post, they're honorable people. I mean, why else would they give their paper, their moniker, to a man that they judged to be a man of peace?

New York Times had a good article, October 19 of 2001, and they mentioned Imam Anwar al-Awlaki, spiritual leader at the Dar al-Hijrah mosque in Virginia, one of the Nation's largest, which draws about 3,000 worshippers for communal prayers each Friday.

"In the past we were oblivious. We didn't really care much because we never expected things to happen. Now I think things are different. What we might have tolerated in the past we won't tolerate anymore. There were some statements that were inflammatory and were considered just talk, but now we realize that talk can be taken seriously and acted upon in a violent, radical way," said Mr. Awlaki, who, at 30, is held up as a new generation of Muslim leader capable of merging East and West, born in New Mexico to parents from Yemen, who studied Islam in Yemen and civil engineering at Colorado State University.

So they featured what they believed to be a man of peace. And, certainly, The New York Times is full of honorable people. So are they all at The New York Times, all honorable people that had such nice things to say about the man who would destroy America.

Of course, Fox News published an article on May 20, 2011, that said:

With the recent death and, again, this was May of this year, of Osama bin Laden, the life of another al-Qaeda-linked radical Muslim cleric—well, that seems pretty hurtful of them, Fox News, to say about someone that The New York Times and The Washington Post thought so highly of. I'm sorry that Fox News was so mean to somebody that The Times and The Washington Post liked so much.

The article goes on:

Documents obtained exclusively by Fox News and its special unit shed new light on his stint as a guest speaker at the Pentagon just months after the September 11 terror attacks. American cleric Anwar al-Awlaki, the first American on the CIA's kill or capture list, which seems a little mean of the CIA. I mean, The Washington Post and The New York Times thought he was okay back in 2001.

□ 2120

Again, the article says:

American cleric Anwar al-Awlaki, the first American on the CIA's kill or

capture list, is still considered a grave threat to U.S. national security. He now is hiding out in Yemen, where earlier this month a U.S. missile attack tried to kill him and his followers.

The scene was much different on February 5, 2002, when the radical imam was invited to and attended the Pentagon event.

Fox News obtained new documents through a Free of Information Act request as part of a year-long investigation called "Fox News Reporting: Secrets of 9/11." An internal Department of Defense email that announced the event with Awlaki also laid out other details, like a proposed menu including pork, which is prohibited for Muslims. The email states "the chef will create something special for vegetarians."

The documents show that more than 70 people were copied on the invitation, which originated in the Defense Department's Office of the General Counsel. It is home to the Pentagon's top lawyer.

"I have reserved one of the executive dining rooms for February 5, which is the date he, Awlaki, preferred," a Defense Department lawyer wrote in the email announcing the event.

"He will be leaving for an extensive period of time on February 11."

The email states that New Mexico born al-Awlaki was the featured guest speaker on "Islam and Middle Eastern Politics and Culture."

The Defense Department lawyer who vetted the imam wrote that she "had the privilege of hearing one of Mr. Awlaki's presentations in November and was impressed by both the extent of his knowledge and by how he communicated that information and handled a hostile element in the audience."

The article goes on and points out that al-Awlaki, a dual U.S. and Yemeni national, was interviewed at least four times by the FBI in the first 8 days after September 11 because he had ties to the three hijackers involved. They were three of the five hijackers of American Airlines Flight 77, which was flown into the Pentagon. Apparently none of the FBI's information about Awlaki, his ties to the hijackers or his history of soliciting prostitutes, was shared with the Pentagon.

Another article published in Andrew Breitbart Presents Big Peace, November 9, 2010, points out that al-Awlaki was involved in the training of the Defense Department's Muslim chaplains and lay leaders as an instructor at the Institute for Islamic and Arabic Sciences in America, IIASA, in the Washington, D.C., area.

It goes on to say:

Controlled by the Saudi Embassy and operating under the kingdom's Ministry of Higher Education, the IIASA served as the branch campus of the al Imam Muhammad Ibn Saud Islamic University in Riyadh. The institute was certified to train the Pentagon's Muslim chaplains until 2003. Many of the faculty members, who held diplo-

matic passports, had their visas revoked in January 2004, and the institute itself was raided by the FBI, Customs, and the IRS the following July.

It goes on to say:

Awlaki's role in the program was reported by Glenn Simpson at The Wall Street Journal back in December 2003 but hasn't been mentioned since. Writing about the IIASA's controversial role in the military chaplain program, Simpson noted:

"Anwar al-Awlaki, the former imam at a mosque in San Diego, also has lectured at the institute. A congressional report on September 11 released this July said Mr. Awlaki counseled two of the hijackers while they stayed in San Diego and then transferred to a mosque that both hijackers attended in northern Virginia shortly before the attacks. Mr. Awlaki, who is now believed to be in Yemen, has denied knowing of the hijackers' plans."

The article goes on:

More is now known about Awlaki's relationship with the 9/11 terror plot. Time magazine reported that the cleric held closed-door meetings with two of the hijackers in San Diego, and the pair followed Awlaki to the D.C. area when he moved there in early 2001. Hani Hanjour, who flew American Airlines Flight 77 into the Pentagon, joined them there. The three hijackers attended the Dar al-Hijrah mosque in Falls Church, Virginia, where Awlaki served as imam.

Well, isn't that interesting?

Also, a report, this is a Rewind: Anwar al-Awlaki leads prayers inside U.S. Capitol for congressional Muslim staffers.

This is from Pajamas Media:

Anwar al-Awlaki's appearance leading Friday afternoon prayers inside the U.S. Capitol following the 9/11 attacks. As Fox News later reported, Anwar al-Awlaki was not the only terror-tied al-Qaeda cleric leading prayers for the Congressional Muslim Staff Association.

Then it goes on and points out that there is footage of Awlaki leading prayers for congressional Muslim staffers (which also included then-CAIR official and now convicted terror operative Randall "Ismail" Royer) shot for a PBS documentary called "Muhammad: Legacy of a Prophet."

Interesting stuff.

Of course, National Public Radio, that receives so much of our taxpayer money, reported November 1, 2001, that Awlaki was contrasted to Osama bin Laden as one of the, quote, moderates who want to solve the problems without violence, unquote, and someone who could, quote, build bridges between Islam and the West, unquote.

Interesting stuff. It just doesn't seem that we seem to learn our lessons very well.

We also know that this Attorney General not only had a Justice Department-involved, which obviously included ATF involvement in selling guns to criminals, Mexican drug cartels who we know killed at least one,

and there may be others, but this Justice Department dropped the charges against the individuals and the groups that were named coconspirators in the Holy Hand Foundation trial that was tried in Dallas, Texas, first to a hung jury. As I understand, there was an 11-1 verdict. One person held up the verdict, so they tried it again, and the Bush administration's Justice Department intended if they got a conviction of the five people charged with aiding terrorism that they would then move forward. In fact, the Assistant U.S. Attorney involved filed pleadings with the court, the District Court in Dallas, Texas, the Federal Court, and also with the Fifth Circuit in New Orleans in response to some of those groups that were named coconspirators to supporting terrorist activity with money and basically said there's a prima facie case here. There's enough evidence to keep them in as named coconspirators.

The conviction occurred, I believe it was November of 2008, five defendants, 105 counts, as I recall. Then, rather than going forward as they should have based on the evidence, the stacks and stacks, the boxes and boxes of evidence, this Justice Department decided to drop the matter.

□ 2130

It's understandable given some of the relationships that are involved.

Of course, CAIR, mentioned in one of the articles, was one of the named coconspirators to financing terrorism in the Holy Land Foundation trial. We know that ISNA was one of the named coconspirators, the Islamic Society of North America, and the head of ISNA, Imam Magid. Actually, Imam Magid was the leader of a named codefendant in sponsoring terrorism in the Holy Land Foundation trial, which this administration refused to pursue further. Then we find out that Imam Magid, a year ago, was at the White House, leading the White House in the Iftar celebration at the conclusion of Ramadan.

Then, of course, we know that the second-highest person in the National Security Agency, Deputy National Security Advisor Denis McDonough, was invited and spoke, and thanked Imam Magid there for the wonderful prayers at the White House and also for the wonderful introduction. They have a wonderful relationship.

Well, isn't that special.

In the wake of Mr. Anwar al-Awlaki being killed in Yemen for his role in having declared war on the United States, I can't help but reflect back on something that sets our country apart. In a new democracy visited earlier this year, I had a leader there say, We're constantly worried about the military trying to take over because we never had a George Washington who did what no one has ever done before or since: led the Revolution—a military revolution—won the Revolution, resigned, and gone home. Nobody has done it before or since. What a man.

In his resignation that was sent to the 13 Governors, Washington, at the

end—and there's a painting of him tendering his resignation—included a prayer. He says in the prayer—and we have his own words, but I won't read the whole thing—"I now make it my earnest prayer that God would have you and the State over which you preside in His holy protection."

He goes on and says, "And finally, that He would most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy and to demean ourselves with charity, humility and pacific temper of mind, which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without an humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy Nation."

"I have the honor to be, with great respect and esteem, Your excellency's most obedient and very humble servant, George Washington."

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, I can't help but wonder if Mr. Al-Awlaki ever knew the divine author of our blessed religion, who George Washington says, "without an humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy Nation."

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

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for Monday and Tuesday on account of official business in the district.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker pro tempore Mr. HARRIS on Thursday, September 29, 2011:

H.R. 2005. An act to reauthorize the Combating Autism Act of 2006.

H.R. 2017. An act making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

#### BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House reports that on September 27, 2011 she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills:

H.R. 2883. To amend part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to extend the child and family services program through fiscal year 2016, and for other purposes;

H.R. 2646. To authorize certain Department of Veterans Affairs major medical facility projects and leases, to extend certain expiring provisions of law, and to modify certain authorities of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; and

H.R. 2943. To extend the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families and related programs through December 31, 2011.

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House also reports that on September 29, 2011

she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills:

H.R. 2017. Making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes; and

H.R. 2005. To reauthorize the Combating Autism Act of 2006.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 34 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, October 4, 2011, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

3297. A letter from the Director, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Emergency Restoration Plan (ERP) (RIN: 0572-AC16) received September 6, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3298. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility [Docket ID: FEMA-2011-0002] [Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA-8191] received August 18, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

3299. A letter from the Director, Division of Regulations, Legislation, and Interpretation, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule — Nondisplacement of Qualified Workers Under Service Contracts (RIN: 1215-AB69; 1235-AA02) received August 31, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

3300. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Rate Increase Disclosure and Review: Definitions of "Individual Market" and "Small Group Market" [CMS-9999-F] (RIN: 0938-AR26) received September 6, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3301. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Effective Date of Requirement for Premarket Approval for Three Class III Preamendments Devices [Docket No.: FDA-2010-N-0412] received September 1, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3302. A letter from the Regulatory and Policy Specialist, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Indian Trust Management Reform-Implementation of Statutory Changes [Docket ID: BIA-2009-0001] (RIN: 1076-AF07) received August 16, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3303. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final

rule — Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Amendment 16, Framework Adjustment 44, and Framework Adjustment 45 [Docket No.: 100526226-1322-02] (RIN: 0648-AY95) received September 1, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3304. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Spiny Dogfish Fishery; Commercial Period 1 Quota Harvested [Docket No.: 110303179-1290-02] (RIN: 0648-XA632) received September 8, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3305. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fisheries; Closure of the 2011 Trimester 2 Directed Loligo Squid Fishery [Docket No.: 100804323-0569-02] (RIN: 0648-XA617) received September 8, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3306. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Scup Fishery; Adjustment to the 2011 Winter II Quota [Docket No.: 101029427-0609-02] (RIN: 0648-XA555) received September 8, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3307. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Fishery; 2011 Commercial Quota and 2011 Commercial Fishing Season for Greater Amberjack [Docket No.: 040205043-4043-01] (RIN: 0648-XA592) received September 8, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3308. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fishery; Emergency Rule Extension, Revision of 2011 Butterfish Specifications [Docket No.: 110218149-1182-01] (RIN: 0648-BA86) received September 8, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3309. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Modification of the Retention of Incidentally-Caught Highly Migratory Species in Atlantic Trawl Fisheries [Docket No.: 110112022-1262-02] (RIN: 0648-BA45) received September 8, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3310. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the West Yakutat District of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 101126522-0640-02] (RIN: 0648-XA610) received August 16, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3311. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pelagic Shelf Rockfish for Catcher/Processors Participating in the Rockfish Limited Access Fishery in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 101126522-0640-02] (RIN: 0648-XA588) received August 16, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3312. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Western Aleutian District of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 101126521-0640-02] (RIN: 0648-XA589) received August 16, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3313. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Inseason Action To Close the Commercial Non-Sanbar Large Coastal Shark Research Fishery [Docket No.: 100622276-0569-02] (RIN: 0648-XA580) received August 16, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3314. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries; Northern Area Trophy Fishery [Docket No.: 110210132-1275-02] (RIN: 0648-XA550) received August 16, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3315. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Northern Rockfish for Catcher/Processors Participating in the Rockfish Limited Access Fishery in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 101126522-0640-02] (RIN: 0648-XA594) received August 16, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3316. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) Provisions; Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery; Amendment 15 to Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan (Scallop FMP) [Docket No.: 110329229-1370-03] (RIN: 0648-BA71) received August 16, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3317. A letter from the Attorney — Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zones; Fireworks within the Sector Boston Captain of the Port Zone [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0507] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received September 1, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3318. A letter from the Attorney, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Houma Navigation Canal, from Waterway Mile Markers 19.0 to 20.0, Southwest of Bayou Plat, bank to bank, Terrebonne Parish, LA [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0523] (RIN:

1625-AA00) received September 1, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3319. A letter from the Attorney, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety zone; San Diego POPS Fireworks, San Diego, CA [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0567] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received September 1, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3320. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zones; July Fireworks Displays and Swim Events in the Captain of the Port New York Zone [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0565] (RIN: 1625-AA00; 1625-AA08) received September 1, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3321. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Raritan River, Arthur Kill and their tributaries, Staten Island, NY and Elizabeth, NJ [Docket No.: USCG-2010-1117] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received September 1, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3322. A letter from the Senior Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Services B.V. Model F.28 Mark 1000, 2000, 3000, and 4000 Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2011-0473; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-019-AD; Amendment 39-16774; AD 2011-17-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 9, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3323. A letter from the Assistant Chief Counsel for General Law, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Hazardous Materials: Minor Editorial Corrections and Clarifications [Docket No.: PHMSA-2011-0134 (HM-244D)] (RIN: 2137-AE77) received September 9, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3324. A letter from the Chairman, Surface Transportation Board, transmitting the Board's final rule — Regulations Governing Fees for Services Performed in Connection with Licensing and Related Services — 2011 Update [Docket No.: EP 542 (Sub-No. 19)] received September 1, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3325. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Certification of Factual Information to Import Administration during Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings: Supplemental Interim Final Rule [Docket No.: 0612243022-1484-02] (RIN: 0625-AA66) received September 1, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3326. A letter from the Director, Regulations and Disclosure Law Division, Department of Homeland Security, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Rules of Origin for Imported Merchandise [USCBP-2007-0100] (RIN: 1515-AD53) (Formerly RIN: 1505-AB49) received August 30, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3327. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Election to Expense Certain Refineries [TD 9547] (RIN: 1545-BF05) received August

31, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3328. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulations, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Protecting the Public and Our Personnel to Ensure Operational Effectiveness [Docket No.: SSA-2011-0052] (RIN: 0960-AH35) received September 6, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. MICA: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 2838. A bill to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2012 through 2015, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 112-229). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. DREIER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 418. Resolution providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2832) to extend the Generalized System of Preferences, and for other purposes (Rept. 112-230). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. NUGENT: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 419. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2681) to provide additional time for the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to issue achievable standards for cement manufacturing facilities, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2250) to provide additional time for the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to issue achievable standards for industrial, commercial, and institutional boilers, process heaters, and incinerators, and for other purposes. (Rept. 112-231). Referred to the House Calendar.

#### PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. KLINE (for himself and Mr. PETERSON):

H.R. 3074. A bill to amend the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to delegate to States the authorities of the Secretary of the Interior under that Act with respect to cormorants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BROUN of Georgia:

H.R. 3075. A bill to restrict the diplomatic travel of officials and representatives of state sponsors of terrorism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. McDERMOTT (for himself, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. ELLISON, and Mr. TIBERI):

H.R. 3076. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code to qualify formerly homeless youth who are students for purposes of the low income housing tax credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MILLER of North Carolina:

H.R. 3077. A bill to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to ensure that customers have the right to immediately close any account at any insured depository institutions on demand, without cost to the consumer, that consumers receive any balance in their account immediately, and for other pur-

poses; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CANTOR (for himself and Mr. FARR) (both by request):

H.R. 3078. A bill to implement the United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CANTOR (for himself and Mr. McDERMOTT) (both by request):

H.R. 3079. A bill to implement the United States-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CANTOR (for himself and Mr. LEVIN) (both by request):

H.R. 3080. A bill to implement the United States-Korea Free Trade Agreement; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois:

H.R. 3081. A bill to authorize the use of certain rail relocation funding for high-speed rail projects; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois (for himself and Mr. LIPINSKI):

H.R. 3082. A bill to provide a biennial budget for the United States Government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Budget, and in addition to the Committees on Rules, and Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. McDERMOTT (for himself and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN):

H.R. 3083. A bill to amend section 402 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to extend the eligibility period for supplemental security income benefits for refugees, asylees, and certain other humanitarian immigrants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. QUIGLEY (for himself and Mr. DOLD):

H.R. 3084. A bill to authorize the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency to temporarily increase the conforming loan limits for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac that are applicable to high-cost sub-areas within counties; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky:

H. Con. Res. 83. Concurrent resolution directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make a further correction in the enrollment of H.R. 2608; considered and agreed to.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. KLINE:

H.R. 3074.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 ("Commerce Clause"); Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 ("Necessary and Proper Clause"); and Article II, Section 2, Clause 2 ("Treaties") of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BROUN of Georgia:

H.R. 3075.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution clause 18 (relating to the power of Congress to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress); and Article IV, section 3, clause 2 (relating to the power of Congress to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States).

By Mr. McDERMOTT:

H.R. 3076.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. MILLER of North Carolina:

H.R. 3077.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8.

By Mr. CANTOR:

H.R. 3078.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 (the power to lay and collect duties and imposts) and Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations).

By Mr. CANTOR:

H.R. 3079.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 (the power to lay and collect duties and imposts) and Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations).

By Mr. CANTOR:

H.R. 3080.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 (the power to lay and collect duties and imposts) and Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations).

By Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois:

H.R. 3081.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 9, Clause 6

No preference shall be given by any Regulation of Commerce or Revenue to the Ports of one State over those of another

By Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois:

H.R. 3082.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 4, Section 8, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. McDERMOTT:

H.R. 3083.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 7 (All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives)

By Mr. QUIGLEY:

H.R. 3084.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 10: Mr. HARPER.

H.R. 100: Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. LAMBORN, and Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee.

H.R. 104: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 198: Mr. LIPINSKI and Ms. KAPTUR.

H.R. 374: Mr. WALSH of Illinois.

- H.R. 412: Mr. GIBSON.  
H.R. 420: Mr. CAMP.  
H.R. 422: Ms. FUDGE.  
H.R. 466: Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN.  
H.R. 530: Ms. LEE of California.  
H.R. 639: Mr. AKIN, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. COOPER, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. HIMES, Mr. HOYER, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. KELLY, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. REYES, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Ms. SEWELL, and Ms. WATERS.  
H.R. 674: Mr. MATHESON, Mr. LABRADOR, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. CRENSHAW, and Mr. BILIRAKIS.  
H.R. 675: Mr. LIPINSKI.  
H.R. 679: Ms. KAPTUR and Ms. RICHARDSON.  
H.R. 708: Mr. BARROW.  
H.R. 711: Ms. NORTON and Mr. BLUMENAUER.  
H.R. 721: Mr. MCGOVERN.  
H.R. 724: Ms. HOCHUL.  
H.R. 733: Mr. BILBRAY.  
H.R. 735: Mr. WOODALL and Mr. DENHAM.  
H.R. 816: Mr. ROE of Tennessee.  
H.R. 854: Ms. KAPTUR and Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.  
H.R. 886: Mr. ROE of Tennessee and Mr. NUNNELEE.  
H.R. 920: Ms. FOX and Mr. PALAZZO.  
H.R. 926: Ms. RICHARDSON.  
H.R. 959: Mr. OWENS and Mr. KEATING.  
H.R. 1005: Mr. GERLACH.  
H.R. 1041: Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mr. OLVER, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.  
H.R. 1042: Mr. MCKEON.  
H.R. 1116: Mr. DOGGETT and Mr. RUSH.  
H.R. 1206: Mr. TIPTON.  
H.R. 1259: Mr. WOLF.  
H.R. 1262: Mr. AL GREEN of Texas.  
H.R. 1267: Mr. CUMMINGS.  
H.R. 1340: Mr. MCCLINTOCK and Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois.  
H.R. 1351: Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA and Ms. PELOSI.  
H.R. 1385: Mr. STARK.  
H.R. 1386: Mr. LOEBSACK and Mr. LONG.  
H.R. 1397: Mr. HOLDEN.  
H.R. 1418: Mr. CLAY and Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey.  
H.R. 1467: Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois.  
H.R. 1509: Mr. ROSKAM.  
H.R. 1528: Ms. BORDALLO.  
H.R. 1537: Mr. PETERS.  
H.R. 1558: Mr. CHABOT, Mr. FINCHER, Mr. AKIN, and Mr. HARRIS.  
H.R. 1571: Mr. BENISHEK.  
H.R. 1639: Mr. RANGEL.  
H.R. 1653: Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. KLINE, Mr. BACA, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. COLE, Mr. POMPEO, and Mr. REICHERT.  
H.R. 1733: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Mr. MORAN.  
H.R. 1738: Mr. RUNYAN and Mr. MCCOTTER.  
H.R. 1739: Mr. BASS of New Hampshire.  
H.R. 1744: Mr. BONNER and Mr. AKIN.  
H.R. 1747: Ms. JENKINS and Mr. COSTA.  
H.R. 1756: Mr. LATHAM.  
H.R. 1842: Mr. SMITH of Washington.  
H.R. 1845: Mr. SMITH of Washington.  
H.R. 1848: Mr. TERRY.  
H.R. 1965: Mr. CLAY.  
H.R. 1968: Mr. OWENS and Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.  
H.R. 1970: Ms. KAPTUR.  
H.R. 1995: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.  
H.R. 2016: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.  
H.R. 2026: Mr. COHEN.  
H.R. 2033: Mr. TOWNS and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.  
H.R. 2059: Mr. CRAVAACK, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. AKIN, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. KELLY, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado, Mr. ROSS of Florida, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Mr. NUNNELEE.  
H.R. 2088: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. QUIGLEY and Mr. SHERMAN.  
H.R. 2090: Mr. MANZULLO.  
H.R. 2094: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.  
H.R. 2131: Mr. SHUSTER.  
H.R. 2137: Mr. BUCSHON.  
H.R. 2139: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. GUINTA, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. RICHMOND, and Mr. BENISHEK.  
H.R. 2182: Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut.  
H.R. 2198: Mr. BRALEY of Iowa.  
H.R. 2237: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.  
H.R. 2245: Mr. NADLER, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, and Mr. LOEBSACK.  
H.R. 2247: Mr. CARNAHAN.  
H.R. 2268: Mr. MORAN.  
H.R. 2315: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.  
H.R. 2342: Mr. LoBIONDO and Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.  
H.R. 2357: Ms. RICHARDSON.  
H.R. 2364: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.  
H.R. 2381: Mr. MICHAUD.  
H.R. 2446: Ms. MOORE and Mr. LATHAM.  
H.R. 2447: Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. COSTA, and Mr. HUNTER.  
H.R. 2466: Mr. POE of Texas.  
H.R. 2471: Mr. QUAYLE and Ms. ESHOO.  
H.R. 2479: Mr. CONYERS.  
H.R. 2485: Mr. LATHAM.  
H.R. 2492: Mr. PERLMUTTER and Ms. BERKLEY.  
H.R. 2497: Mr. MANZULLO.  
H.R. 2502: Mr. GIBBS and Mr. HANNA.  
H.R. 2505: Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. MICHAUD, and Mr. TOWNS.  
H.R. 2514: Mr. NUNNELEE and Mr. SCHWEIKERT.  
H.R. 2518: Mr. VISCLOSKY.  
H.R. 2541: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. LABRADOR, and Mr. DUFFY.  
H.R. 2567: Mr. CONYERS.  
H.R. 2580: Ms. HOCHUL.  
H.R. 2617: Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA.  
H.R. 2679: Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 2728: Mr. BLUMENAUER.  
H.R. 2814: Mr. STARK.  
H.R. 2815: Mr. FORTENBERRY.  
H.R. 2840: Mr. COOPER.  
H.R. 2842: Mr. MCCLINTOCK.  
H.R. 2874: Mr. LANDRY.  
H.R. 2888: Mr. SCHRADER.  
H.R. 2900: Mr. MCCOTTER and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.  
H.R. 2911: Mrs. MYRICK.  
H.R. 2918: Mr. MCCOTTER, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. WESTMORELAND, and Mr. ROSS of Florida.  
H.R. 2926: Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina.  
H.R. 2951: Mr. LANDRY.  
H.R. 2954: Mr. STARK.  
H.R. 2956: Mr. BACA and Mr. GRIJALVA.  
H.R. 2966: Ms. RICHARDSON.  
H.R. 2982: Mr. INSLER, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. CROWLEY, and Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut.  
H.R. 2985: Ms. BORDALLO, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. JONES, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Mr. KING of New York.  
H.R. 3000: Mr. ROE of Tennessee.  
H.R. 3014: Ms. RICHARDSON.  
H.R. 3039: Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. FARR, Mr. BONNER, and Mr. GRIMM.  
H.R. 3059: Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, and Mrs. BLACKBURN.  
H.R. 3060: Ms. FUDGE and Mrs. CHRISTENSEN.  
H.R. 3065: Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Mr. SIMPSON, and Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado.  
H.J. Res. 45: Mr. HURT.  
H.J. Res. 69: Mr. HOYER.  
H.J. Res. 73: Mr. NUNNELEE.  
H.J. Res. 78: Mr. FILNER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, and Mr. MORAN.  
H. Con. Res. 72: Ms. EDWARDS.  
H. Res. 137: Mr. CONYERS.  
H. Res. 177: Mr. BERMAN.  
H. Res. 380: Mr. QUIGLEY.  
H. Res. 385: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.  
H. Res. 397: Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. SIRES, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. CLAY, and Mr. STARK.  
H. Res. 416: Mr. BURTON of Indiana.