

taxpayers deserve, and that's what House Republicans offer.

WOMEN'S HEALTH

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

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, since assuming control of the House of Representatives, Republicans have brought 10 bills to the floor to limit a woman's constitutionally protected right to make choices regarding her own health. In January, we were told that the Republican majority was going to "rebrand" and refocus on the economy.

Yet, this week, my Republican colleagues once again ignored the pressing problems of many American families and brought a bill to the floor that would reverse decades of progress for women's health. H.R. 1797, muscled through by an all-male Republican panel, would upend *Roe v. Wade* and contains only the narrowest of exceptions for women who are victims of rape or incest.

I received an email Monday from a constituent that I think best sums up the problems in the bill. In this email, the constituent, who is an abuse victim and incest survivor, urged me to stop this dangerous bill from becoming law and threatening the health of women who, like her, are in the most desperate and tragic of circumstances.

While the bill passed the House yesterday, I am happy to say that it will not be acted upon in the Senate. I urge my colleagues to stop these dangerous games with women's health and confront the true problems that are facing the country.

□ 1210

STUDENT LOANS AND THE ECONOMY

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, just this morning I met with student leaders from North Carolina who are visiting the Capitol as part of the 2013 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. One student asked me a question about what the House of Representatives is doing to advance education and job creation. It was a perfect question given our House Republican plan for jobs and leadership to keep Federal student loan interest rates from doubling on July 1.

Almost 12 million Americans are struggling to find work; 4.4 million have been out of work for more than 6 months. Young people and recent college graduates looking for jobs are disproportionately impacted in this economy. Washington shouldn't be adding additional stress to students' job hunts. But on July 1, if the President fails to lead and the Democrat Senate fails to act, student loan interest rates will double for student borrowers.

The House agrees with students, #Don't Double My Rates, and we have acted to stop the increase.

It's time for the Senate to do its job. Students are depending on them.

SNAP

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak against the cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program in the FARRM Bill on this June nineteenth 2013.

As the Nation's most important antihunger program, SNAP offers nutrition assistance to 46 million low-income Americans and provides economic benefits to communities. SNAP also allows families to more easily set aside a portion of their resources for food and to prioritize a healthier, more consistent diet without compromising on obligations such as rent, utilities, and transportation.

The proposed FARRM Bill would cut \$20.5 billion from the SNAP program and leave over 66,000 Texans without any assistance. We cannot allow the budget to be balanced on the backs of the poor and the most vulnerable in our country.

I did the SNAP challenge. I lived on \$4.50 for 1 day, and I can tell you that is not easy, especially if you're trying to eat healthy. We need to find ways to fund federally funded nutrition incentive programs that will help hard-working taxpayers save money on health care costs in this country.

For many Americans, SNAP is the only form of income assistance they receive. I join my colleagues in supporting the McGovern amendment, which eliminates the draconian cuts to ensure that 46 million people who rely on this program will have food on their dinner table each night.

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

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

Mr. STEWART. Mr. Speaker, this week marks the 50th anniversary of National Small Business Week.

A lot of people think of small business and think, Well, what's the big deal? What difference does that really make?

Here's the reality: sixty percent of the jobs created in the last 20 years were created by small business.

I'm honored to represent the great State of Utah, especially as a former small business owner. With over 57,000 small businesses that have employed more than half a million people in my State, it's clear to me that small business is the backbone of our economy.

Forbes magazine recently named Utah the best State in the Nation for business and careers and for small busi-

nesses for the third consecutive year. Utah has reached that high-caliber status through supporting a probusiness environment. It offers a low corporate and a low personal income tax rate. Our cost of energy is 27 percent lower than the national average. Pro-business policies like this in Utah help to spur our economy and create jobs, and they contribute to one of the lowest unemployment rates in the country.

Being a small business owner, I recognize the amount of hard work that is required to run a small business. I congratulate the small business owners and wish them a successful Small Business Week.

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

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

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, this week marks the 50th anniversary of National Small Business Week.

Small businesses are a vital part of our Nation's fabric and a big source of opportunity, pride, and good-paying jobs in the communities that I serve.

Here's what I'm doing in California for my district and my small businesses:

We're connecting our small businesses to the power of the ports to help export their goods to new markets overseas;

We're helping to clear away the misinformation and uncertainty about what the Affordable Care Act really means for small businesses;

We're providing resources and information to expand their access to capital to help them grow and get more customers coming in their door.

Small businesses are the backbone of our economy. When our small businesses are strong, our Nation is strong.

All Americans should take the opportunity this week to shop at a small business.

RECOGNIZING MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER CHAIRMAN BILL GALLAGHER

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

Mr. DAINES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend, Montana Public Service Commissioner Chairman Bill Gallagher, who was recently diagnosed with early-stage pancreatic cancer. Cindy and I join the people of Montana in keeping Bill and his family in our prayers during this most difficult time.

Sadly, this is a disease that affects all too many Montanans. Yesterday, I met with Abby Brown, a Pancreatic Cancer Action Network volunteer from my home town of Bozeman, who recently lost her dad to pancreatic cancer. She shared stories about her dad's fight, as well as other Montanans like

Gallatin County District Judge Mark Guenther, who was also a friend of mine.

Abby also told me of the importance of regular checkups and healthy living as key preventative measures in lowering one's chances of being diagnosed with higher risk cancers.

Unfortunately, cancer has affected each and every American in some way. I hope all Montanans will work to promote cancer awareness, and even more importantly, take preventive measures to prevent cancer and increase early diagnoses.

Know it. Fight it. End it.

CUTS TO SNAP

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman MCGOVERN for his leadership on an amendment to the FARRM Bill.

This farm bill will have a serious and devastating impact. It will damage the lives of millions of vulnerable, struggling, hardworking Americans. They are scraping by on the worst economy since the Great Depression.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle say 47 million Americans on food stamps is too many. I agree. Forty-seven million Americans on food stamps means too many Americans unemployed; it means too many underemployed living in poverty.

Rather than pointing the finger at these people, we need to point it at ourselves. What has the Republican-led House done to repair our economy? What bills have they passed to support our industries and create middle class jobs?

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment. Keep food on the table of struggling American families. That's what we should be doing, and we should support this amendment.

OBAMA VACATION

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

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, the military has taken \$500 billion in budget cuts this year; Congress has slashed its budget by 11 percent in the last 3 years; and this year, at the President's command, several government agencies have cut vital programs and employees due to mandatory spending cuts.

Everyone across the country is being asked to do more with less—families, businesses, the military, and government agencies—but the President is sending Americans another message: you pay while he plays.

That's right. The Obama family is taking an extravagant summer vacation to Africa, costing taxpayers an estimated \$100 million. That is obscene, and Americans should be outraged. This money could keep the public White House tours funded—which the

President canceled due to budget constraints—for 26 years. It could pay for an additional 22,000 college degrees for soldiers enrolled in the Army's Tuition Assistance program. It could reverse the potential \$90 million in cuts for Border Patrol agents and border security. In fact, it could fund the entire Houston Astros' payroll times four.

Mr. Speaker, instead of asking everyone but himself to make enormous sacrifices, it's time for the President to make his and put the people first.

HONORING CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT DENISE JELINSKI-HALL ON HER RETIREMENT

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

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, I'm very proud to honor today someone who is a great servant leader and who I'm honored to call my friend, Chief Master Sergeant Denise Jelinski-Hall. She will be retiring later this month after serving nearly 30 years in the United States Air Force, where she earned the distinction of being the first female and the first Air National Guard member to serve as the National Guard Bureau's Senior Enlisted Leader. This is the highest enlisted rank in the National Guard that one is able to hold.

While she is originally from a small town in Minnesota and has served everywhere from Nebraska to Qatar, I'm especially proud of the tremendous impact that she has made on her nearly 20 years that she spent serving in the Hawaii National Guard.

Chief Jelinski-Hall is happiest when she is spending time with soldiers and airmen, and has done so in all 50 States and around the world as she leads by example, encouraging troops to focus on personal growth and education. She should serve as an inspiration to young men and women across the country through her great work ethic and leadership by example.

Congratulations and thank you very much—mahalo nui loa—to Chief Jelinski-Hall on her incredible, long, accomplished career in service to our country.

□ 1220

FARRM BILL

(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, as a member of the Agriculture Committee, I strongly support the FARRM Bill we are considering today and the reforms that it brings.

The EPA has been implementing what is known as a "total maximum daily load" on the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The TMDL is often described as a pollution diet because it mandates water quality standards and nutrient discharges into the watershed.

Aside from the great cost, one of the concerns I have had is the science behind the TMDL. EPA's model is substantially different from USDA's. As such, I have been a strong advocate for EPA utilizing the USDA's data and agricultural expertise while implementing this mandate.

This is why I am offering an amendment to the FARRM Bill which will require USDA to provide such data and consultation to EPA while ensuring privacy of farmers.

The Chesapeake Bay is a national treasure. It needs and deserves our attention. However, these restoration activities, which require taxpayer dollars, should include the best science available to continue the great strides we are already making with the health of the bay.

SNAP CUTS

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

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, in this, the richest country in the world, it is unconscionable that the farm bill we are debating today cuts nearly \$21 billion from SNAP, our Nation's most important anti-hunger program.

Today, one in seven Americans depends on the SNAP program to put food on the table. The draconian cuts in this bill will remove many from this program and increase hunger from millions of Americans already struggling to survive. Hardest hit will be children, who in addition to suffering the agony of hunger will be at risk of having a disability because studies have shown that the SNAP program is a critical buffer for preventing developmental challenges.

Our vulnerable senior population, for which SNAP is a vital safety net, also will be put at risk because it can make the difference between having food or going hungry.

Mr. Speaker, there are better alternatives to reducing our deficit. While it is true that the FARRM Bill is an important bill that regulates and protects our food industry, it is also true that it is tragic that in the United States of America this bill, as introduced, will increase the pain and suffering of hunger which already shamefully exists in our country.

YELLOW RIBBON CEREMONY AT CAMP RIPLEY

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

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, as you can see, I am wearing a yellow ribbon here today. I do so to recognize the newest Minnesota Yellow Ribbon Networks being officially proclaimed at the National Guard Camp Ripley, near the community of Little Falls in north