

I want to remind my colleagues in the House that that same kind of effort, attention, and risk is needed on the issue of comprehensive immigration reform. If we can produce a budget deal through the crisis that we have been through, then it is time for the House of Representatives and the Republican leadership to step up and produce the same kind of effort, the same kind of attention to one of the most critical domestic issues affecting so many families and communities in this country, and that is the question of comprehensive immigration reform.

If we have the fortitude, the risk to compromise on a budget, we should certainly be able to do that for immigration reform.

NIH FUNDING

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

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, the National Institutes of Health has helped make America one of the great engines of biomedical discovery.

NIH funding is critical for NIH to sustain its mission of improving health through scientific breakthroughs and maintain our international leadership.

I am proud that some of the world's best scientific research is taking place right here in New Hampshire. In New Hampshire, lifesaving research at Dartmouth College and UNH is made possible by NIH grants.

Unfortunately, the first year of sequestration required NIH to cut 5 percent of its budget. Many of America's young scientists are leaving the U.S. to pursue their research abroad for more stable positions.

If the sequestration were to continue for the full 10 years, NIH would lose a staggering \$19 billion, and our Nation would lose precious time in its race against Alzheimer's disease, cancer, autism, HIV/AIDS, and countless other diseases that cause pain and suffering.

I urge congressional leaders to approve robust funding for NIH and to reverse the damaging impact of sequestration on research programs.

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

(Mrs. NEGRETE McLEOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. NEGRETE McLEOD. Mr. Speaker, the Affordable Care Act is moving in the right direction and delivering what the law was intended to do: delivering a wider range of medical services to all Americans, including improved access to mental health services.

The administration announced that \$100 million of additional funding would be made available to expand and improve the way Americans receive mental health services.

According to the California HealthCare Foundation, nearly one in six Californian adults has a mental

health need and approximately one in 20 suffers from a serious mental illness that makes it difficult to carry out major life activities. The rate among children is higher where one in 13 suffers from a mental illness that limits participation in daily activities.

While most mental illnesses are treatable, those with mental illness often struggle to get needed treatment if they do not have health insurance that covers mental health services. Starting next year, insurers would not be able to deny coverage or charge an individual more due to preexisting health conditions, including mental illnesses. The health care law would also require most health plans to cover recommended preventive services like depression screening for adults and behavior assessment for children.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, AND COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas) laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Natural Resources, and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 9, 2013.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: I wish to resign from my assignments to the House Committee on the Judiciary, the House Committee on Natural Resources, and the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs effective the week of December 9th, 2013. My resignation is in order to facilitate my appointment to the House Committee on Appropriations. Thank you for the opportunity.

Sincerely,

MARK E. AMODEI.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, AND COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Agriculture, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee on Education and the Workforce:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 11, 2013.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: Please accept this letter as resignation from my seats on the House Committee on Agriculture, the House Committee on Armed Services, and the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

I thank you for the opportunity to serve on these important Committees. I remain com-

mitted to supporting my district's unique military, agriculture, and educational interests in my new capacity on the House Committee on Appropriations.

Sincerely,

MARTHA ROBY,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY, COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY, AND COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, the Committee on Homeland Security, and the Committee on Natural Resources:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 9, 2013.

OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: As you are aware, the Steering Committee acted last week on my request to join the Appropriations Committee. In order to move on to the Appropriations Committee, I am writing to resign from my current committee assignments, including all subcommittees on:

The Science, Space, and Technology Committee;

The Homeland Security Committee; and
The Natural Resources Committee.

I have truly enjoyed my service on these committees. I similarly look forward to serving on the Appropriations Committee.

Sincerely,

CHRIS STEWART.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

□ 1230

ELECTING CERTAIN MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the House Republican Conference, I send to the desk a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 437

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE—Mr. McAllister.

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS—Mrs. Roby, Mr. Amodei, and Mr. Stewart.

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES—Mr. McAllister.

Ms. JENKINS (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

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

There was no objection.