

2012 one of the major debates in this Congress has been whether to restrict access to birth control, and now there are those in the House and Senate who have voted time and time again against enforcing equal pay for equal work.

It is time for this Congress to join the rest of us in the 21st century. Let's get the paycheck fairness bill on the floor, and let's vote "yes."

IN HONOR OF LANCE CORPORAL  
CODY EVANS

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

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding young man from my district who I've recently had the pleasure of getting to know. Lance Corporal Cody Evans of Speedwell, Tennessee, serves in the United States Marine Corps as a combat engineer, one of the most dangerous jobs in the military.

While serving in Afghanistan, Lance Corporal Evans stepped on a pressure plate while sweeping for IEDs, nearly losing his life. He lost both legs and suffered numerous other injuries. I met Lance Corporal Evans in January of this year in a visit to Walter Reed. To say that I was impressed by this young man's spirit and resilience would be an understatement. Cody has the spirit of a fighter, a spirit that has led to his continued recovery.

No mention of Cody would be complete without mentioning his mother, Regina, who has been with him constantly. Her dedication to her son is incredible.

As a Nation, we must recognize those who serve, who have the character and commitment to risk their lives so that we may sleep peacefully at home. Cody Evans deserves this recognition, which is why it is my honor to ask that this poem penned by Albert Caswell be placed into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

I . . .  
I Volunteered. . .  
But, to do my very best. . .  
As I so raised my hand like all of the rest!  
Patriots, who over the years our nation have so blessed!  
As I so went off to war, but for the greater good like all of the rest!  
Men of steel, whose hearts so chose to crest!  
As Cody, you so watched your brothers die!  
While, holding them in your arms as you began to cry. . .  
And oh yes you Cody, you have so proudly worn. . .  
Those most magnificent shades of green, that uniform!  
Because, to be A United States Marine. . . you were born!  
For you'd much rather die for something, than live for nothing at all!  
As why Cody you so answered that most noble of all calls!  
That Call To Arms, That Call To War. . . while standing tall!  
As you almost died, oh yes a couple of times. . .  
While, there on the very edge of death you so lie!  
As you could have given up, but instead you chose to rise. . .

As your newest mountain you were about to climb!  
Because, Cody you Volunteered for that fight!  
Yea Cody, because you're from Tennessee where men with brave hearts ever burn bright!  
Who, In Strength In Honor do so believe!  
Where them and their families are as strong as Hickory trees!  
And all in our Country Tis of Thee, they do so believe!  
This Volunteer from Tennessee!  
As yes you have lost your two strong fine legs, but you won't moan and you won't beg!  
Because, that's just The Volunteer all in you!  
In fact Andrew Jackson Cody, would be so proud of you!  
All because of what upon the battlefield of honor, into what you so grew. . .  
For surely Cody you had one of the toughest jobs of that war. . .  
As a Combat Engineer, where every new step meant but death for sure!  
Something that so demanded such faith and nerves of steel!  
As you and your brothers so fought and died for was right and what was real!  
And still somehow on this very day, your strength and will to so come back from the dead so impresses me!  
To So Teach Us All!  
To So Beseech Us All!  
To So Reach Us All!  
To This Our Nation To So Bless!  
For you are but The Toast of Tennessee!  
But, in Heaven you need not arms or even legs!  
And that is where you are going Cody one fine day!  
And if ever I had a son!  
I wish he could but shine just half as bright, as this great one!  
This United States Marine!  
Who embodies the very heart of Tennessee!  
Who so Volunteered, all for this our Country Tis of Thee!  
As you so Volunteered to make America Safe and Free!  
I could do a million great things, but such light to this our world I could never bring!  
As you are a most magnificent United States Marine!  
All in what your fine life has said, and so means!  
Moments are all we have to so make a difference in all we have!  
To bring our light, to fight the bad!  
Cody, to be an American. . . you make me so proud to be!  
For you are one of her greatest of all sons, Ooh. . . Rah, a Shining Son of Tennessee. . .  
If it were not for Heroes like you and Volunteers, where would this nation be?  
—By Albert Carey Caswell.

ENERGY ISSUES

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Tonight, I and other Members of the House are going to talk about energy issues in the United States.

Probably a timely thing to start with are the recent comments by one of the individuals who works for the Environ-

mental Protection Agency, the EPA. The more we learn about the EPA, the more we learn that they are hostile to real American energy for various reasons. Let me give you some historical perspective that makes this continuous assault on the oil and gas industry make sense to us now in 2012.

It seems that back in 2010, 2 years ago, EPA Region 6 Administrator Al Armendariz stood up on his bureaucratic pedestal of power and spelled out the true intentions that he had and the goals of the EPA. He declared that the EPA—and he declared this from his marble palace here in Washington, D.C.—that the EPA would target the oil and gas industry, calling it an "enforcement priority" as if, Madam Speaker, the oil and gas industry were made up of criminals.

He went on:

I was in a meeting once, and I gave an analogy to my staff about my philosophy of enforcement, and I think it was probably a little crude and maybe not appropriate for the meeting, but I'll go ahead and tell you what I said.

And here is what he said, Madam Speaker:

It was kind of like how the Romans used to do—you know, conquer villages in the Mediterranean. They'd go into a little Turkish town somewhere. They'd find the first five guys they saw, and they'd crucify them.

That's right—they would crucify them—as if he is advocating crucifying the oil and gas industry. What a thing to say from somebody who works for the Federal Government.

He said he would make examples out of the people in the oil and gas industry. Probably unknown to him, his speech was all caught on videotape that recently surfaced. In fact, it was on the Internet YouTube last night; but today, mysteriously, it seems to have disappeared and is no longer on YouTube. That was in 2010.

These comments help us to understand the EPA's belligerent attitude against energy—American energy—against the oil and gas industry. What came after was one of the most aggressive assaults on the oil and gas industry we've ever seen. As a Wall Street Journal editorial once said, the EPA is at war with Texas. I think the EPA probably should change their name to the War Department because they are at war with America's energy. They certainly aren't concerned as much about the environment as they are about putting American energy out of business.

The oil and gas industry supports 9.2 million jobs in the United States. I wonder how many of those workers Mr. Armendariz wants to crucify all in the name of his political agenda.

Madam Speaker, we need a fair EPA, one that brings a balanced approach to the environment and to our energy industry. An attack on the energy industry is an attack, really, on the American people and American jobs. Mr. Armendariz seems to be at war with America. He does not want to really