

forties and tell them today, ROB, you are not going to get the Social Security and Medicare benefits your parents got, because I'm not. We've got to come to people today and give them the bad news. ROB, you are going to continue paying the highest payroll taxes in the history of this country to go into the Medicare and Social Security Trust Fund, but when you retire, you will not get the kind of medical and Social Security benefits that your parents got.

We've got to deliver that bad news because I'm not, and other folks in their forties aren't, and folks in their thirties aren't, and their twenties aren't, and their teens aren't.

We overpromised, Mr. Speaker. If you don't believe we overpromised, I want you to go back, you can look it up on the Internet, Mr. Speaker. In fact, it's on the Social Security Web page.

A young woman named Ida Mae Fuller. You may not know who Ida Mae Fuller is, but she was the very first American to retire under the Social Security program. The very first monthly check that she received, Mr. Speaker, returned every penny that she'd paid in in taxes over her lifetime. Hear that. The first monthly check that she received returned to her every penny that she'd paid into Social Security taxes over her lifetime, and she continued to receive a check of that size every month for the next almost 30 years until she died in the early nineties.

Well, Mr. Speaker, when you're handing out money like that, you have to know that system's not going to sustain itself. In those days there were about 30 American workers paying in for every one retiree, and so we could be generous. Today there are about two American workers paying in for every one retiree, and the American workers can't afford that.

I don't want to pull the rug out from under today's seniors, Mr. Speaker. We've made promises, and we need to keep those promises. Folks have lived their entire life banking on those promises, and I think we owe it to folks to come through. They did everything they were supposed to do. They paid their taxes, they played by the rules. I think we owe it to them to come through for them.

But for folks in their forties, for folks in their thirties, for folks in their twenties, we need to deliver the bad news today that that train has come to a stop. And we'll tell you what the new plan's going to be, we'll tell you what the new dollars are going to be, and you'll be able to plan for your future accordingly. But know that we have to deliver that kind of candid bad news.

Take-home message from this chart right here, Mr. Speaker, is that defense spending in this country, over an 8-year period, is about \$5.3 trillion. But sequestration is going to find about 42 percent of the savings out of the entire bill out of the defense side of the budget.

Now, I'm one of those folks who says we've been spending on wars for the last decade. Do we have waste in the Defense Department just like we have waste in the Ag Department and waste in the National Park Service and waste in the Judiciary, and on and on? Of course we do. You can't be in the Federal Government business spending other people's money without getting careless from time to time, which is why we need to push that money back to the State level.

We can find savings in the Defense Department. But we're coming to a point where the President's Secretary of Defense tells us we are about to begin to undermine national security, our troops, and their families.

Now, if you don't know, the Secretary of Defense today is Leon Panetta. He was once the Democratic chairman of the Budget Committee right here in this House. He was once the OMB director, the Office of Management and Budget. That's the budget office for the President. He was once the OMB Director for President Clinton. He was once President Clinton's Chief of Staff. He understands everything that's happening in this town. He understands the challenges in Congress. He understands the challenges in the White House. And as Secretary of Defense, he understands the challenges of defending a Nation. And he says we're on the verge, if we keep targeting defense, of undermining national security, our troops, and their families.

Now, that's not to say, Mr. Speaker, that defense gets a free pass. It absolutely doesn't. I have a chart right here that shows defense spending, Mr. Speaker. It starts in FY 2009. It goes out to 2021. It's in constant dollars.

□ 1520

It's a downward slope.

If we do absolutely nothing more than what we've already done, Mr. Speaker, we're going to reduce defense spending year, after year, after year in a responsible way that protects our national security, that protects our troops and that protects their families. But if we leave in place this sequester—it's represented by the light blue line down here at the bottom—you're going to see defense spending cut almost in half.

I challenge you, Mr. Speaker, and I challenge you to challenge your constituents: go and find the men and women in uniform in your communities. Go and find them, and ask them if there is waste, fraud and abuse in their particular parts of the Defense Department. I promise you they're going to tell you yes. I want you to ask them if there is 50 percent waste, fraud and abuse, and the answer is going to be no.

We can absolutely reduce defense spending, Mr. Speaker. You and I together, with our colleagues on the Democratic side of the aisle, have absolutely reduced defense spending; but it has to be done in a responsible way.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate your being with me down here today, and I appreciate your partnership in these successes. I yield back the balance of my time.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 4045. An act to modify the Department of Defense Program Guidance relating to the award of Post-Deployment/Mobilization Respite Absence administrative absence days to members of the reserve components to exempt any member whose qualified mobilization commenced before October 1, 2011, and continued on or after that date, from the changes to the program guidance that took effect on that date.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 21 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, May 22, 2012, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

6069. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Golden Nematode; Removal of Regulated Areas [Docket No.: APHIS-2011-0036] received April 19, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6070. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Karnal Bunt; Regulated Areas in California [Docket No.: APHIS-2011-0074] received April 19, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6071. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations (City of Gulf Shores, Baldwin County, Alabama et al.) [Docket ID: FEMA-2012-0003] received April 16, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

6072. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility (Town of Barton, Tioga County, New York, et al.) [Internal Agency Docket No.: FEMA-8225] received April 16, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

6073. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations (Mobile County, Alabama, et al.) [Internal Agency Docket No.: FEMA-B-1248] received April 16, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

6074. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes

in Flood Elevation Determinations (Yavapai County, Arizona, et al.) [Docket ID: FEMA-2011-0002] received April 16, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

6075. A letter from the Solicitor of Labor, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule — Administrative Claims Under the Federal Tort Claims Act and Related Statutes (RIN: 1290-AA25) received April 16, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

6076. A letter from the Deputy Chief, CGB, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Rules and Regulations Implementing the Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991 [CG Docket No.: 02-278] received April 16, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6077. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Interpretations; Removal of Part 8 [NRC-2011-0180] (RIN: 3150-AJ02) received April 19, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6078. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Reintegration of Security into the Reactor Oversight Process Assessment Program received April 16, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6079. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, Deputy Chief Acquisition Officer, General Services Administration, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-58; Introduction [Docket: FAR 2012-0080, Sequence 3] received April 19, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6080. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel, Small Business Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Small Business Size Standards: Professional, Technical, and Scientific Services (RIN: 3245-AG07) received April 19, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Small Business.

6081. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel, Small Business Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Small Business Jobs Act: Implementation of Conforming and Technical Amendments (RIN: 3245-AG15) received April 19, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Small Business.

6082. A letter from the Director of Regulation Policy and Management, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Payment or Reimbursement for Emergency Services for Nonservice-Connected Conditions in Non-VA Facilities (RIN: 2900-AN86) received April 25, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

6083. A letter from the Director of Regulation Policy and Management, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Rules Governing Hearings Before the Agency of Original Jurisdiction and the Board of Veterans' Appeals; Repeal of Prior Rule Change (RIN: 2900-AO43) received April 25, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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. MILLER of Florida: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 4114. A bill to increase, effective as of December 1, 2012, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes (Rept. 112-486). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. MILLER of Florida: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 3670. A bill to require the Transportation Security Administration to comply with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (Rept. 112-487 Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. MILLER of Florida: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 4201. A bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to provide for the protection of child custody arrangements for parents who are members of the Armed Forces (Rept. 112-488). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

TIME LIMITATION OF REFERRED BILL

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XII, the following action was taken by the Speaker:

H.R. 940. Referral to the Committee on Ways and Means extended for a period ending not later than June 29, 2012.

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 Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas (for herself and Ms. EDWARDS):

H.R. 5826. A bill to implement a National Water Research and Development Initiative to ensure clean and reliable water for future generations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas (for herself and Ms. EDWARDS):

H.R. 5827. A bill to ensure consideration of water intensity in the Department of Energy's energy research, development, and demonstration programs to help guarantee efficient, reliable, and sustainable delivery of energy and clean water resources; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mrs. MALONEY (for herself, Mr. GONZALEZ, and Mr. HONDA):

H.R. 5828. A bill to amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to permit an absentee ballot application submitted by an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter with respect to an election for Federal office to serve as an absentee ballot application for each subsequent election for Federal office held in the State through the next regularly scheduled general election for Federal office; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mrs. LUMMIS (for herself and Ms. TSONGAS):

H.R. 5829. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to permit agencies to count certain contracts toward contracting goals; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. REICHERT (for himself and Mr. WALZ of Minnesota):

H.R. 5830. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to enable certain non-profit or-

ganizations that serve homeless veterans to participate in the Grants and Per Diem Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide transitional housing or other facilities for homeless veterans; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. MATSUI (for herself, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. CALVERT, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Ms. SPEIER, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. HONDA, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. HAHN, Ms. CHU, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. BACA, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. COSTA, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. FARR, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. BASS of California, Mr. STARK, Mrs. DAVIS of California, and Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California):

H.R. 5831. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Army to undertake a comprehensive review of the Corps of Engineers policy guidelines on vegetation management for levees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. BACA:

H.R. 5832. A bill to facilitate the transfer or sale of the LA/Ontario International Airport from the city of Los Angeles, California, back to the city of Ontario, California; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. BERKLEY:

H.R. 5833. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase burial benefits for veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BOSWELL:

H.R. 5834. A bill to require each State receiving assistance under the Higher Education Act of 1965 to charge in-State tuition rates at public institutions of higher education in the State to the dependent children of individuals who have served on active duty for at least 15 years and whose domicile is in the State; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. BOSWELL:

H.R. 5835. A bill to amend the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to provide for additional loan programs for veteran-owned small businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. BOSWELL:

H.R. 5836. A bill to prohibit institutions of higher education that have a cohort default rate of 30 percent or more from receiving veterans' education benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, and Veterans' Affairs, 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 Ms. BUERKLE (for herself, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. KING of New York, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. TURNER of New York, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. GRIMM, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. HAYWORTH, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. TONKO, Mr. HINCHAY, Mr. OWENS, Mr. HANNA, Ms. HOCHUL, Mr. HIGGINS, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Mr. REED):

H.R. 5837. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 26 East Genesee Street in Baldwinsville, New York, as the "Corporal Kyle Schneider Post