

agreement. We wish him great success in this endeavor and we call on the Palestinians to do their part: to renounce terror, to accept Israel's right to exist as a Jewish State, to turn over the captured Israelis and to abide by past agreements.

And at this time I yield to my good friend, ELIOT ENGEL.

Mr. ENGEL. I thank the gentlewoman for yielding to me. And she makes an excellent point.

You know, Israel withdrew from Gaza. People say, well, Israel needs to withdraw from the territories, from the settlements and there will be peace, land for peace. Well, Israel withdrew from Gaza and got land for war. I mean that's exactly what's happened, with rockets being fired on Israel from the very part in Gaza that Israel left.

The Arab countries, as a whole, need to start normalizing relations with Israel. We can start with Saudi Arabia on down, to show that they are really serious about peace. They need to stop the terrorist infrastructure and end the incitement.

And you know what? Gaza, as Ms. BERKLEY pointed out, is a terrorist organization in control—I'm sorry. Hamas is a terrorist organization in control of Gaza. And what Hamas needs to do is recognize Israel's right to exist, abide by all previous agreements that the Palestinians have signed, and renounce terrorism permanently. Otherwise, why should Israel negotiate with a government that denies its very right to exist?

The United States is right in saying that Hamas is a terrorist organization. And by the way, Representative BERKLEY and I do not believe that we should provide aid to Gaza until Hamas meets these conditions.

So there are people who also say that the Palestinian-Israeli problem needs to be settled before there can be peace in the region. That is nonsense.

The problem with Iran has to be settled before there can be peace in the region. We all know that Iran is developing nuclear weapons. We all know that Ahmadinejad has threatened to wipe Israel off the face of the Earth. We all hope he loses in his election this week. But whoever replaces him is not going to be much more of a moderate than he is.

And so Israel has the absolute right to defend its security, and the United States, as Israel's greatest ally, should not be putting pressure on Israel to make unilateral concessions up front. That is very, very important.

When President Obama said the bond between Israel and the United States is unbreakable, then we ought to show that in our actions as well as our words.

So I thank the gentlewoman for sharing this time with me. I know we are going to continue to fight for strong U.S.-Israel ties.

Again, I'm glad there is bipartisan support in this Congress for Israel. And I'm glad that we pointed out that Israel has made many, many conces-

sions for peace and has only gotten war.

We hear a lot about what the Israelis must do. Let us hear about what the Palestinians must do. The Palestinians must stop the incitement, stop the violence, stop the terrorist infrastructure and say that it recognizes Israel's right to exist.

It's not all right for President Abbas to say he recognizes Israel's right to exist. Let Hamas say it. Let the Palestinians say it, and let them mean it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PAUL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PAUL addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

THE TYRANNY OF GOOD INTENTIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. DUNCAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, 3 or 4 years ago, if I had told people that we would be facing this year a budget of \$3.6 trillion and facing a deficit of \$1.870 trillion, people would have thought that I was crazy. But that is what we're facing.

And because of the terrible financial condition of the Federal Government, all of our expenditures are related, even though they may sound at first like they're unrelated. And so I want to speak tonight briefly on two issues of national significance, even though they may sound unrelated at first.

President Reagan used to say frequently in speeches that government was not the solution; government was the problem. And certainly, there also is an expression called the "tyranny of good intentions." And that cannot be seen more clearly in anything than in the Federal Student Loan Program.

When I go to speak at the University of Tennessee or other colleges and I tell them that my first year at the University of Tennessee it cost \$90 a quarter, and then \$105 and then \$120 and \$135 a quarter, \$405 for the whole year my senior year at the University of Tennessee, gasps go through the room.

But back when I went to college, anybody who needed to could work part-time and pay all of their college expenses. Nobody got out of college with a debt.

But around that time, or maybe a little bit before, the Federal Student Loan Program kicked in. And the colleges and universities across the country have used that as a means or an excuse to raise their tuition and fees three or four or five times the rate of inflation every year since that program came in.

If I went into any college campus and told those students that the Federal

Student Loan Program is one of the worst things that ever happened to them, they would stare at me probably in disbelief. And yet it really is one of the worst things that ever happened to them, because throughout our history, college tuition and fees went up very, very slowly, and went up at the rate of inflation or even less until that loan program came in. And now, ever since that program came in, today, tuition and fees are 3- or 4- or 500-percent higher than they would have been if we'd just left the thing totally alone.

As I said, it's called the "tyranny of good intentions." And the only way to correct that now is to punish colleges and universities that continually raise their tuition and fees at three or four or five times the rate of inflation by saying that we're going to limit or cut off the loans at those universities and colleges that continually raise their tuition and fees above the rate of inflation.

The second thing, and it seems a little unrelated except, as I say, when you're talking about matters that there are significant Federal expenditures on, all these things are somewhat related.

And I'll give another example from my own life. In the early nineties, I went to a reception in Lebanon, Tennessee, and the doctor who delivered me came and brought my records. And I asked him how much he charged back then, and he said he charged \$60 for 9 months of care and the delivery, if they could afford it.

And I told him that he probably didn't get anything for me then because my parents didn't hardly have any money at that point.

But we took what was a very minor problem in the mid-sixties and turned into a major problem for everybody. Nobody but Bill Gates and Warren Buffett and Sheldon Adelson, the casino man, people of that rank, could afford or survive a catastrophic medical expense of some sort.

We took what was a very minor problem for a very few people and turned it into a major problem for everybody. Before the Federal Government got heavily into medical care, medical care was cheap and affordable by almost everyone. I started following politics and government very closely in the mid-sixties, and I remember when they came in with Medicare, and they said that was going to be the saviour of the system. Instead, costs exploded.

Then I remember in the mid- and late seventies when they started talking about Medicaid, and they came in with that, that was going to be the saviour of the system. Instead, costs exploded.

Now we're talking about the government getting even more into medical care now, and costs will explode again, and they will explode to a level far higher than the predictions of what the costs will be, because when they first started Medicare, they said it would cost \$9 billion after 25 years. And now we're at \$400 billion, I think, \$42 billion on Medicare.

The same thing has happened in regard to Medicaid. And it's really sad what we have done to the American people, and especially to the poor and the lower-income and the working people of this country in these two programs. And if we don't—if we aren't very careful, and if we don't put many free market and free enterprise-type measures and reforms into these bills, then these costs are going to explode, and the poor and the lower-income people and the middle income people are going to be hurt even more by programs that are, as I say, the "tyranny of good intentions."

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The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

AMERICA'S DEALERSHIPS NEED A MIRACLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. MANZULLO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, in less than 48 hours the doors of hundreds of GMC dealers across the Nation and Chevy dealers will be closed. General Motors, now a State-owned enterprise with 60 percent of the stock belonging to the American people and with the directors appointed by the Auto Task Force, capriciously, willfully, unjustly sent out letters to so many of their GM dealers terminating their dealerships at end of this week, dealers who had been asked, in many cases, a few years before to invest millions of dollars of their own in order to promote the GM brand and dealers whose families go back three and four generations, some 85 to 90 years of continuous ownership of service to the community, and their doors will be shut by GM as a result of a letter. And the letter has completely changed the rules as to why they should stay open.

Dealerships that are profitable, dealerships that add to the community, dealerships that pump billions of dollars into State and local sales tax coffers, closed by a letter, without explanation. How outrageous. So outrageous that the majority leader of the House of Representatives, STENY HOYER, whom I joined in a press conference just a few hours ago, made these statements:

"Two Sundays ago, I was on a telephone call with the folks at the White House who are helping to make our policy with respect to this, and I asked them this: 'What money does it save the manufacturer, General Motors or Chrysler, if you shut down the dealership?' The answer: Zero, zero, zero."

This is the official answer from the Auto Task Force to the majority lead-

er of the United States House of Representatives.

We sent letters to General Motors, we sent letters to the Auto Task Force, and all we get is silence. The destruction of a family business after 90 years does not deserve silence in America. It deserves the outrage of America saying, How dare you close down these dealerships when it cost you no money to keep them open?

We asked General Motors and Chrysler, tell us the reasons why you're doing it. And do you know what they say? It's to lessen competition. That means Americans have less choice. That means prices get higher. And isn't it ironic that the American taxpayer, who has paid \$60 billion to keep open these companies, now will see his local dealership closed because the guys at GM want to lessen competition. What's good for General Motors isn't good for America today.

A bill introduced by several Marylanders, including CHRIS VAN HOLLEN and FRANK KRATOVIL, H.R. 2743, solves the problem. We need that bill to pass by some miracle before Friday.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MORAN of Kansas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. McCLINTOCK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. McCLINTOCK addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BISHOP of Utah addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PAULSEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PAULSEN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GOHMERT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BROUN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BROUN of Georgia addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

PRO-LIFE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. SCHMIDT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to shine the light on a subject where I do not believe this administration's actions are living up to its rhetoric. Whether it was said on the campaign trail or in speeches during his time in office, the President has certainly tried to sound reasonable on the issue of life, but the administration's actions belie its words.

During a campaign appearance at the Saddleback Civil Forum with Pastor Rick Warren on August 17, 2008, then-candidate Barack Obama made clear that his goal was to "reduce the number of abortions." In fact, he said that he had inserted this into the Democratic Party platform: "How do we reduce the number of abortions?"

Now, given the administration's expressed support for Roe v. Wade, I never expected, nor do not expect it, to suddenly reverse its course. However, one way to reduce the number of abortions in a way that works and one that is a common-ground issue for the American people is not to allow taxpayer-funded abortions. Violating the consciousness of millions of pro-life Americans to fund a procedure which they object to based on a deeply held religious belief, a moral belief, by allowing taxpayers to fund abortions actually increases the number of abortions performed, according to the Guttmacher Institute through research on Planned Parenthood.

Honoring the deeply held religious and moral beliefs of millions of taxpayers by restricting taxpayer-funded abortions actually decreases abortions by about 30 percent. So that is one way to reduce the number of abortions, something that the President has said he would like to do. But since taking office, this administration has actually worked to increase taxpayer funding for abortions at both home and abroad. The first was the Mexico City Policy.

The Mexico City Policy was first promulgated in 1984 and renewed by the Bush administration in 2001. This is a very simple policy that says, as a condition for receipt of U.S. family planning aid, foreign, nongovernmental organizations and international organizations must certify that they neither perform nor actively promote abortion as a method of family planning. Simply