FEAR IS IN THE AIR FOR DEMOCRATS

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

Mr. PENCE. Thomas Jefferson said, ''When the people fear their government, there is tyranny; when the government fears the people, there is liberty.'' Make no mistake about it, there is fear in the air.

Now elitists in Washington, DC, would have us believe that the rising voice of the American people is based on fear, but it is becoming evident that the real fear is coming from Democratic elitists here in Washington who realize that the people will not be silenced.

Yesterday we learned of a new effort by Democrats in Washington to attack American citizens who speak their mind and peaceably assemble as ''extremists'' or ''radicals.'' Demeaning Tea Party citizens or other Americans for simply saying no to runaway spending, takeovers, and bailouts is beneath the dignity of a great political party and it smacks of desperation. The voices of the American people—whether the left or the right or the middle—should never be muted or demeaned by the leaders who serve them. And when we see baseless smears of good Americans whose only offense is the exercise of their First Amendment rights of free speech and free assembly, we should see the fear for what it is—the fear of losing an election.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF FORMER NBA STAR LORENZEN WRIGHT

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

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, yesterday in Memphis, Tennessee, a tragedy was discovered that has affected our city and its professional sports world, a great basketball player and Memphian, Lorenzen Wright, was found murdered.

Lorenzen Wright was a 14-year NBA star who played 5 years with the Memphis Grizzlies, and before that, 2 years with the University of Memphis, taking our team to the Great Eight in Kansas City, and before that, in high school at Booker T. Washington.

Lorenzen Wright was a family man. He was loved in Memphis, he was an outstanding citizen who cared about young people, he loved his children, and the city grieves for him today.

It is a great loss to our city and to the basketball world. I miss Lorenzen Wright as a friend. I appreciate all he did for my city.

DEMOCRATS NEED MORE OF YOUR TAX DOLLARS

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

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, $6.1 trillion, that's how much money the Federal Government has spent in just the first 18 months of the Obama Presidency. Washington is spending $7 million every minute of every hour of every day. There is only one way to feed that kind of destructive habit: Washington needs more of your tax dollars.

And that's exactly what Democrats here on Capitol Hill and in the White House are talking about, the largest tax increase in American history. And it's no surprise when this Democrat-controlled Congress is on the verge of a second straight year of creating a record annual deficit.

Instead of working with Republicans to make the hard choices to cut spending, Democrats are going to keep right on with out-of-control spending, and they will send the American people the bill. At a time when American families are struggling and when nearly 15 million people are looking for work, Washington Democrats are poised to hit every single taxpayer with a tax increase to pay for their reckless spending.

Madam Speaker, House Republicans will fight those tax increases and will work to stop Democrats' out-of-control spending.

FORT EDWARD FIRE

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

Mr. MURPHY of New York. Madam Speaker, there are times when words fall abysmally short to describe the horrors that punctuate our lives. A few weeks ago, our community was shaken by the devastating loss of six children in a house fire. As a father of three, a loss of this magnitude is beyond my comprehension.

Fort Edward has come together to remember and mourn the loss of these young lives. After the fire, a makeshift memorial grew up on the sidewalk in front of their home with a sea of flowers, toys, teddy bears, candles, and cards. Our community has grieved the loss of these children and come together in prayer and silence to offer support to their family and friends.

It is always a tragedy when children are taken before they've had a chance to grow, and it leaves us wondering, why did this happen? Hope was 12, Paige was 8, Lewis was 7, Mackenzie was 6, Emilie was 3, and Abbigayle was just 1 years old. Our hearts go out to their parents, and today I rise to remember the six children who lost their lives on that tragic night. Our entire community grieves their loss and keeps the memory of their lives close to our heart.

MISSED OPPORTUNITIES AND MISPLACED PRIORITIES

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

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Speaker, I want to say just a few words about missed opportunities and misplaced priorities.

This is typically appropriation season, but this is only our second appropriation bill—and maybe final appropriation bill that we do all year. We typically have an open rule where any Member can bring any amendment to the floor as long as it is germane to strike spending and save money for the taxpayers, yet this year the Rules Committee only saw fit to allow 22 percent of the amendments offered to go onto the floor today.

Typically, any Member can offer any amendment they would like to as long as it saves money. But instead of saving money this year, we decided to spend time doing things like H.R. 1460, recognizing the important role of pollinators, or supporting the goals and ideals of Railroad Retirement Day, or congratulating the Saratoga race course. These are suspension bills that take 10 minutes to debate on the floor; that's the same amount of time that we give for amendments. And so instead of doing amendments to save money, we're actually honoring racehorses and things like that.

TAX EXTENDERS BILL

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

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, in December, and again in May, this House passed legislation to extend a set of expiring tax provisions providing billions of dollars in tax relief to millions of American families. That tax bill passed the House and has been stymied in the other body, where only two Republican Senators have stood up to their party's filibuster against these tax cuts. The $250 deduction for teachers is an important incentive for people who educate our children and buy classroom supplies out of their own pockets, but it has expired. Let me tell you who's suffering in the meantime: 124,000 teachers in Georgia cannot deduct $31 million in classroom supplies for our children; 26,000 teachers in Nevada cannot deduct $6.6 million in expenses; 113,000 teachers in North Carolina cannot deduct $28 million of classroom costs; and 314,000 teachers in Texas cannot deduct $81 million in expenses to educate our children. More than 3.5 million elementary and secondary teachers cannot deduct more than $908 million they will spend this year out of pocket.

A better educated child means a better job down the road. This tax deduction benefiting our Nation's teachers has been forgotten and cast aside by the Senate Republicans. I urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to