

was an important part of our energy future; but for the last 6 months, the Federal Government has blocked drilling at every turn, leaking a permit out here and there only just lately. But now they say it's safe to drill again, and what do they do? They ban drilling.

The Cubans are going to drill offshore next year, and from what they're saying, they will partner with the Russians and the Chinese. Madam Speaker, since when is it okay for China, Russia, and Cuba to drill off our shores and not America? Not only that, the American taxpayer is sending money by the administration to Brazil and Mexico to let those countries drill off their shores. Is the administration at war with the American energy companies? Maybe so.

And that's just the way it is.

#### FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 5116. An act to invest in innovation through research and development, to improve the competitiveness of the United States, and for other purposes.

□ 1710

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

#### HONORING BEVERLY BUCHHEIT ON HER RETIREMENT

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

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, on the occasion of her retirement, I rise to honor a great citizen of Missouri and the City of St. Louis, Beverly Buchheit. Beverly is a shining example of what our Founders envisioned for America: an engaged and spirited citizen, active in the affairs of her Nation and her community.

Beverly has been a valued member of my staff for over 5 years as a liaison to the City of St. Louis and specialist on senior issues. Beverly has dedicated her life to helping others, shown by her commitment to service to the public schools of the City of St. Louis as an educator, administrator, and community leader. She also served as an elected official, our Democratic committee woman, in the City of St. Louis for over 30 years.

Beverly Buchheit is a woman of strong faith and family. She is a longtime member of the Messiah Lutheran Church of St. Louis. She and her late

husband, Valentine "Wally" Buchheit, were married for almost 32 years and raised three children: Dennis Buchheit, Patricia Wood, and Donna Schaeffer. Beverly also deeply loves her seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Bev, as she is known, is a friend to many. She is loyal to her Nation and to her beloved St. Louis and to her friends and her family. Her work, whether it be volunteering in her neighborhood or mentoring countless teachers, educators, and students she has touched and influenced, is a testimony to her reputation as an exemplary educator and citizen, faithful friend, loving mother, and good neighbor.

I have relied on Beverly for counsel and advice throughout my political career, first as a State representative and now as a Member of this House. I am proud to call Beverly Buchheit a neighbor, a member of my congressional staff, but more importantly, I am proud to call Bev my mentor and my friend. I wish her well.

#### MEXICAN-AMERICAN BORDER

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. Madam Speaker, last Tuesday, north of the Mexican-American border, a number of our Border Patrol agents were trying to stop some bandits, Mexican bandits who were stealing and killing people who were coming across the border illegally. One of the people that was involved in this and was shot was a fellow named Manuel Arianes, AKA Manuel Arellanes Osorio. He is a Mexican in the United States illegally. He was convicted in 2006 for aggravated assault. He had been deported to Mexico twice, and he was in the United States with his colleagues committing more crimes. And a Border Patrol agent, Mr. Brian A. Terry, was shot to death on the border in that area last Tuesday night.

Now, the reason I bring this up—and my good friend, Mr. POE of Texas, who will be talking about this and probably some other things related to it later—we wrote a letter, Mr. POE, myself, and ED ROYCE of California, RALPH HALL of Texas, and PETE OLSON. All of us wrote a letter to the President of the United States, and this was in October. We said, Mr. President, you know, we sent 17,000 National Guard people to the Gulf during the Gulf oil spill because it was a threat to the environment and to the people's livelihoods who live down in that area. And yet the Mexican-American border is 1,980 miles long, and when the President decided to help augment our Border Patrol agents, he sent, I think, 1,300 or 1,400 National Guardsmen down, went down there and only for a short period of time, and they were not right on the border.

We have a war going on on the Mexican-American border. Today, we talked

about the spending bills. We talked about taxes. We talked about tax extenders. And all of those things are extremely important, but we have a war going on on the Mexican-American border with drug dealers and thieves and terrorists coming in from Mexico. And now we understand that we're training, down in Central America, some of the local law enforcement and military with our military people to stop them from moving into places like Costa Rica. We are talking about the drug dealers.

We have a major problem in our hemisphere that threatens the stability of the entire southern part of the United States—Texas, New Mexico, Arizona. And as we know, the Arizona Governor has tried to do everything she can to deal with the problem, and nothing is happening. In fact, the President of the United States and the Justice Department have been fighting her. It just doesn't make any sense whatsoever.

We need to get on with doing what we promised to do, and that is build that border fence and put enough border agents down there and National Guardsmen to deal with the problem and, if necessary, to work with the President of Mexico to put military personnel on both sides of the border to stop these terrorists, drug dealers, and the people that are disrupting what is going on here in the United States.

And you say, Well, that's the border. That doesn't deal with us.

There are signs in Arizona 80 miles north of the border, 80 miles into the United States that say to American citizens, Don't go south of here because it's not safe. We have got ranchers and farmers that have been beaten up and killed in the United States by these drug dealers and these terrorists that are coming across the border.

So we wrote to the President on October 26, Mr. POE and I and my other colleagues, and we followed up with another letter on November 4. And you know what we have heard from the President? Not a darn thing. Nothing. And it's been, what, a month and a half, 2 months.

The President is ignoring this problem and people are dying, and the security of the southern part of the United States—in fact, the entire United States is at risk.

So if I were talking tonight—and I know, Madam Speaker, I can't talk to the President because we are not allowed to talk to people outside the Chamber. But if I were talking to the President, I would say, Mr. President, answer our letters. Pay attention to what's going on, and secure that border. Go talk to the President of Mexico and the others in Central and South America and make sure we stop these drug cartel terrorists from disrupting the United States and threatening the security of our border. This is a war, Mr. President. Get on with it.