

thought you lived the American Dream—until one day that dream turned into a nightmare.

That's what happened when GM spun off Delphi Corporation in 1999 and later filed for bankruptcy, and over 20,000 salaried employees were left out to dry. Family finances were ruined all across this country, including the cities of Lockport and Rochester in my district. This must be corrected. That's why I'm delighted to see the reemergence of GM as a global powerhouse.

But we cannot forget these individuals. I've called on this administration for their help. I've not received an adequate response from the Department of Labor and the Department of Treasury. And I call on the President to take up the cause of these retirees because they need our help. Their promises are broken, and it's our responsibility to help them at this time.

#### FARMERS DESERVE CERTAINTY

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

Mr. HULTGREN. Madam Speaker, successful agriculture is vital for America and for my home State of Illinois to thrive in the future. The farmers in my district in northern Illinois are saying that they can do without direct payments as long as there is some protection from catastrophe. That's why I'm looking forward to supporting a broad plan for strong, reliable, and affordable crop insurance when we take up the farm bill next week.

A successful farm bill must have strong protection from uncontrollable risks for our Nation's agriculture sector. Farmers take large risks every year to acquire the seed, feed, and supplies they will need for the season. Crop insurance gives them the certainty to take these risks, knowing that they will be protected from conditions beyond their control.

We have an opportunity to empower farmers by giving them choices and the ability to tailor protection to their needs while also asking that they share the risk so the taxpayer isn't picking up the whole tab.

#### IT'S TIME TO EXTEND THE STUDENT LOAN RATE

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

Mr. WELCH. Madam Speaker, in 11 days, the interest rates on the Stafford student loans will double from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent. It's unthinkable that Congress would allow this to happen. But here we are, only 11 days from the deadline, and no closer to a solution than we were months ago. This is one of those only-in-Washington situations. Nearly everyone agrees that we can't let these rates double. Doing so will be a real blow to the middle class and those trying to climb their way

into the middle class. It would be bad for the economy, and it makes no practical sense. The Federal Government is borrowing at 1.6 percent. Yet Congress has been unable to extend the lower rate, and it is now only 11 days away.

Take Jessie from Norwich, who will be affected. Despite significant financial support from scholarships and her family, she's graduating from nursing school with over \$150,000 in student loan debt. At age 26, Jessie worries that she'll not be able to start a family or put a down payment on a home because of this staggering debt. She worries that if interest rates increase, a bad situation will be even worse.

Madam Speaker, we have 11 days. It's time to get this done.

#### CHINA'S ONE-CHILD POLICY

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

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, last week, I received an extremely disturbing report about China's one-child policy from China's central Shaanxi province. Feng Jianmei was 7 months pregnant and home alone when she was abducted by government family planning officials. She was taken to a hospital and bound while her child was administered a powerful poison. After she gave birth to her dead child, without the aid of painkillers, the baby was then left beside her on the hospital bed, as shown in this picture. Her husband is a common worker, who has no recourse for the crime that has been perpetrated on his wife and child. Family planning officials in Shaanxi took this gruesome step in order to meet their quotas under China's brutal one-child policy. This is further evidence that government officials routinely take extreme measures to enforce China's barbaric one-child policy.

It's a human rights issue. It's far past time that the Chinese government stop this terrible repression and end the destruction of lives. I call on Secretary Clinton to condemn this policy in the strongest terms.

#### LET'S PASS A TRANSPORTATION BILL

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

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. The American public deserves better. They deserve more from their Congress. The sacrifices that so many millions of Americans have given, whether it's in military service or service to this Nation, to allow us to stand here and self-govern ourselves needs to be repaid with maybe the words of Daniel Webster above us up there: Let's do something great in our time. The differences this Nation has is what makes us strong—differences of opinion. But compromise and common purpose is the glue that hold us together.

If there's anything that we can agree upon, it's that this Nation should have a world-class transportation system to move people and goods in an efficient, effective manner. And we're sitting here not passing a transportation bill. We have never had this problem in this Congress. The last five transportation bills have passed with an average of 375 bipartisan votes. We have a bill that passed the Senate 100 days ago that passed with a 74-22 vote. I'm not sure they can agree it's Tuesday in the Senate, and they compromised on a transportation bill.

I urge my colleagues here, either get the compromise done this week or bring the Senate bill forward and let us vote up or down to put America back to work and do something great in our time.

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#### UTILITY MACT AND PJM AUCTION

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, President Obama's regulatory war on coal is having an effect. In the 2015-2016 capacity auction by regional transmission organization PJM Interconnection, the market clearing price for the mid-Atlantic area was \$167 per megawatt. And for northern Ohio, it was \$357 per megawatt. The average over the last 8 years has been \$89.

Andy Ott at PJM Interconnection said:

Capacity prices were higher than last year's because of retirements of existing coal-fired generation resulting largely from environmental regulations which go into effect in 2015.

A study published in 2010 by the Edison Electric Institute identified seven different new regulations that will raise the cost of electrical generation by 2017. The costs are huge. The EPA's estimate of costs for its utility MACT regulation alone is \$9.6 billion per year starting in 2015.

The House of Representatives has taken action to prevent the imposition of new regulatory burdens in the midst of this fragile economic recovery, but the Senate has yet to follow that lead. Madam Speaker, prices are climbing, and Americans will suffer.

#### 2,000 AMERICAN FATALITIES IN OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, last Thursday, June 14, marked the 2,000th American fatality in Operation Enduring Freedom. Today, that number is now 2,004 OEF fatalities, of which 1,887 happened in Afghanistan. Suicide rates by our veterans are now