

have decided to leave town for almost 40 days with a long list of unfinished business: postal reform, the Violence Against Women reauthorization, the farm bill, comprehensive jobs legislation, the Make It in America agenda, a balanced and big plan to solve our deficit, and tax cuts for the middle class.

We should remain here and do the work the American people sent us to do.

□ 1750

#### JOBS.GOP.GOV

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. I have come down to the floor just to remind my colleagues and you, Mr. Speaker, that if you go to jobs.gop.gov you will see a list of 25 bills that have been passed in this Chamber to do a couple of things: to boost competitiveness in the manufacturing sector; encouraging entrepreneurship in government; to help pay down our debt; and my favorite is maximizing American energy production. Yes, using American energy and our resources to create jobs, like the Keystone XL pipeline. We passed numerous bills to move the Keystone XL pipeline, 20,000 immediate jobs.

Mr. Speaker, you can go to jobs.gop.gov to check the 25 different bills that we have passed in this Chamber. We have done our work. We will continue to do our work. Obviously, we need the other Chamber to be somewhat functional and at least consider these bills and then move to conference, which is how a bill becomes a law.

#### NO TAX CUT FOR THE MIDDLE CLASS

(Ms. HANABUSA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, you have controlled the House for 19 months. The Republican majority has simply failed to lead. And more importantly, you are incapable of governing for the middle class—the middle class, the people who help build this great Nation. This week we had the opportunity to provide a tax cut for 100 percent of these Americans, those individuals earning less than \$200,000 and less than \$250,000 for a family. But once again, the Republican majority wanted it their way.

And what was your way? You wanted to pass tax breaks for millionaires and billionaires, your friends. And what does that do? It adds \$1 trillion to our deficit and debt over the next 10 years. How many times has the majority said time and time again about the deficit and debt. And what do you do? You pass the tax cuts that are going to add \$1 trillion.

Mr. Speaker, it's about time that we step back and we realize that we are

here to serve and the fact that we must take care of the majority, the wonderful middle class.

#### NEVADA'S SALES TAX

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

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, Congress must do right by Nevada's middle class families and make permanent the sales tax deduction, a measure that benefits so many middle class families in Nevada. Over 300,000 Nevadans claimed \$456 million in deductions for State and local sales tax in 2009 alone. Nevada is one of only nine States that has no State income tax and, instead, revenue is raised through a sales tax.

Nevadans should be able to deduct their sales tax from their Federal income tax, just as citizens from income tax States do now. The sales tax deduction helps families across Nevada by leaving more money in their pockets. This creates jobs, stimulates economic growth, and keeps money in their pockets.

It's a matter of priority, Mr. Speaker. We must make the sales tax deduction permanent in order to give middle tax families the certainty of knowing they will have extra money in their pockets to put food on their table, gas in their cars, and be able to pay the mortgage on their family home.

#### RAISING TAXES ON MILITARY FAMILIES

(Mrs. DAVIS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the House unfortunately passed a tax bill that will raise taxes on 25 million families, including many military families. And that is, in a word, outrageous. We see strenuous objections from the majority to fairly tax the superwealthy; but we don't hear a peep about placing an extra tax burden on our middle class families, including members of our military whose families are actually struggling in this economy.

Under the majority's tax bill, an E-1 sailor in the Navy with 2 years' service with a spouse and three young children at home would see a tax increase of \$1,096. A private in the U.S. Army in her first year of service who is married with an infant child would see a \$273 tax increase.

As the ranking member of the House Military Personnel Subcommittee, I want to know why we are asking those who have given so much for our country to give even more while we ask the wealthiest Americans to sacrifice nothing. Our military families deserve much better than that, and so do the American people.

#### THE DO-NOTHING REPUBLICAN CONGRESS

(Ms. EDWARDS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, can you believe it—Republicans are on their planes, trains, and automobiles headed out of Washington for a month when they haven't provided tax cuts for middle class Americans and for small businesses. That's right, Mr. Speaker: absent without cause, AWOL, while the American people wait.

And here they are, we had a chance to provide tax cuts for middle-income families. We had a chance to make sure that middle-income families aren't stretched in this economy; but, instead, they've added nearly \$1 trillion to our deficit and debt over the next 10 years because they are interested in protecting millionaires and billionaires. And now they're high-tailing it out of Washington.

Well, I can't believe it. Republicans are leaving with the postal service in default; the Violence Against Women Act not reauthorized, leaving domestic violence victims in limbo; jobs legislation undone, leaving Americans who want to work out of work.

Well, Jiminy Cricket, Mr. Speaker, what is going on with this do-nothing Congress, with this do-nothing Republican Congress? The American people deserve more, and it's time to get back to work.

#### APPOINTMENT TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF AMERICAN FOLKLIFE CENTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's reappointment, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 2103(b), and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, of the following individual from private life to the Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center in the Library of Congress on the part of the House for a term of 6 years:

Mr. C. Kurt Dewhurst, Michigan

#### IT'S A SPENDING PROBLEM, NOT A REVENUE PROBLEM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WOODALL) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield to my good friend from Virginia.

#### REMEMBERING THE FALLEN OF THE CHINOOK HELICOPTER CRASH

Mr. RIGELL. I thank my friend for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute, to honor, and to remember and celebrate the lives of American heroes. We're approaching a most sobering anniversary, August 6. This is the day 1 year ago when a Chinook helicopter crashed in Afghanistan, taking with it the lives of