

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, this week, The Washington Post reported that unless America doubles its spending on port infrastructure, we are on track for export losses of \$270 billion by 2020 because our ports do not have sufficient capacity. That translates into a \$697 billion drop in the American economy and a loss of 738,000 jobs.

But ports are not the only area where our anemic infrastructure investment has become a drag on the American economy. We will lose hundreds of billions of dollars of growth over the next 5 years because of our inability to move goods and people efficiently.

Congress just passed a bill to spend \$52 billion on roads and bridges in this country, all we can afford according to some Members of Congress. But somehow we found money to spend \$150 billion rebuilding the roads and bridges of Iraq and Afghanistan.

I have introduced a bill, a 5-year, \$1.2 trillion investment in roads and bridges, ports, and transit airports because it's time to do nation-building right here at home.

#### NEW MEXICO

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

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, New Mexico is celebrating its centennial this year, 100 years as a State. It's not one of the oldest States, but it's one of the richest in diversity, history, and cooperation, home to 19 individual pueblos, two Apache Indian tribes, numerous Navajo chapters.

The Spanish came north out of Mexico in the 16th century looking for the seven cities of gold. We're still looking for those today. We did find black gold under the east side of the State and in the northwest corner.

New Mexico is home to an agriculture industry that is second to none. It shows the earliest existence of humans there. Clovis Man is named for a town in the east side of New Mexico where they were discovered.

Santa Fe is the oldest capital in America, formed in 1610.

But that's not where the richness of New Mexico is. It is in our traditions, traditions of hard work, traditions of faith, family, freedom, and service to others. Those are the values I learned when my parents came to New Mexico. They went broke in Texas, came to New Mexico, and built a family there. That's the richness of New Mexico.

Mr. Speaker, I commend New Mexico on its 100 years.

#### CAMP ASHRAF AND CAMP LIBERTY

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

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, last month I joined 78 bipartisan Members of Congress in asking Secretary of State Clinton to ensure that Iraq meets its obli-

gations and protects the 3,400 Iranian dissidents living in Camp Ashraf and Camp Liberty.

Residents of Camp Liberty are members of the MEK.

In recent days, another 680 Ashraf residents have been relocated to Camp Liberty under a resettlement plan backed by the United States. It is important that we support these residents as they seek to liquidate tens of millions of dollars of their assets left behind at Camp Ashraf.

A major problem of the relocation plan is that as long as the MEK remains on the U.S. list of foreign terrorist organizations, its members at Liberty will not be able to find countries which accept them.

The Department of State is currently under court order to make its decision on the MEK case by October 1, 2012. It is my hope that the Department of State removes the MEK from the foreign terrorist organization list immediately, as it is the legal, moral, and humane thing to do.

#### SWIPE FEES

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

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, 1 year ago, Congress took action finally to reform out-of-control debit card swipe fees charged to our small businesses and customers every time they swipe a debit card. For years, the card companies and big banks have essentially been ripping folks off, overcharging them on swipe fees. With no one watching just because they could, they were charging the highest fees in the world, running up billions of dollars in profits but all at the expense of small businesses and consumers. That's just too much. There is no justification for this.

A year ago, Congress finally took action on the debit cards. That's good for our economy and fair to our small merchants. But we need to do more.

Abuses continue in credit card swipe fees. The credit card companies and the big banks should step back and have a business model where they charge a fair price for an important service but not rip off their customers.

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#### GUN CONTROL

(Mr. BISHOP of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the tragic passing of Neil Godleski, nephew of my friend and constituent, Suzanne Murphy of Southampton, New York.

Neil was a rising senior at Catholic University. He was fatally shot on August 22, 2010, while riding his bicycle home from a restaurant where he worked as a waiter. He was 31 years old and had returned to college with plans

to pursue a career in science. His assailant was a 16-year-old boy who shot him six times with a .38 caliber handgun and then robbed him.

Suzanne's family has been wrenched with grief over the sudden end of this young man's life. While no vigil or memorial could ever begin to take away the pain of this loss, Suzanne has found a way to channel her grief and focus her energy. She has become an advocate for gun control.

When roughly 100,000 Americans are killed or wounded each year, reasonable people can agree that we can achieve evenhanded policies that protect Americans from senseless gun violence that do not infringe on any American's right to possess a firearm.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Suzanne's efforts to reach out and bring awareness to the problem of gun safety. We must not let her nephew become just another chilling statistic in the battle to make our community safer, leaving another family struggling to get past the pain and the loss.

#### DO-NOTHING HOUSE REPUBLICANS

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

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, President Harry Truman of Missouri famously labeled the Republican Congress of 1948 the "Do-Nothing Congress." But to call this Congress the do-nothing Congress would be an insult to the 1948 Congress that was 10 times more productive than this Congress.

With the House recessing on the 21st, this is the earliest Congress has left to campaign in an election year in 52 years. The GOP-led 112th Congress has achieved the lowest approval rating ever—nearly 9 out of 10 Americans say they disapprove of this Congress.

Maybe we should feel lucky that Congress hasn't been here, because when they have been here, they voted to end Medicare as we know it and give tax breaks to millionaires over the middle class. They have left town without passing middle class tax cuts, the farm bill, the Violence Against Women Act, and responsible debt reduction. And they have voted for corporations that ship jobs overseas instead of passing the American Jobs Act.

Let's stop calling this the do-nothing Congress. This is worse than the "Do-Nothing Congress."

#### DYSFUNCTIONAL HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to talk about the number 47, not as in the percentage of Americans, the soldiers and students and elderly and working poor, many of whom are paying more in total taxes than Mr. Romney is paying on his tens of millions of dollars in annual income but who, nevertheless,