



WHERE'S YOUR PLAN, MR. PRESIDENT?

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

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, just moments ago this body passed the Cut, Cap, and Balance bill. Today we stand at a crossroads that will define our Nation's financial security for generations. Republicans, we have a plan that cuts the Federal budget, caps Federal spending, and balances the Federal budget with a constitutional amendment so we do not have this problem in perpetuity.

Democrats, well, there is no plan, no plan to bring this country back to financial sanity. Yet my colleagues on the left continue to criticize the House Republican plan. In all the time my colleagues on the Democrat side have been attacking the House Republican plan, they could have come up with one of their own. Even the President talks about his plan; yet he has yet to produce one. This shows once again a complete failure of leadership by President Obama and congressional Democrats.

The American people spoke loudly and clearly in the 2010 elections: They want Federal spending cut. It's that simple. Let's follow through and not let the American people down.

REMEMBERING JAMES T. MOLLOY

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is my sad duty to report the passing of a former officer of this House, doorkeeper James T. Molloy.

Jim, as he was known to so many, served as doorkeeper for 20 years, when I first came to Congress from 1974 to 1994. He was known throughout the world for his distinctive introduction of the President and heads of State to Congress. He is the one who would always yell: Ladies and gentlemen, the President of the United States.

Jim, a native of Buffalo, New York, was a graduate of Canisius College and worked as a fireman and schoolteacher before coming to Washington at the invitation of Congressman John Rooney of New York. He leaves his beloved wife, Roseann, and his daughter, Amy.

We will all miss him. We all remember him, and we all loved him.

HONORING NORTH DAKOTA SENATE MAJORITY LEADER BOB STENEHJEM

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

Mr. BERG. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor a statesman and my good friend, Senator Bob Stenehjem, who passed away yesterday in a tragic car accident.

Bob served as the Senate majority leader in North Dakota for 10 years, and he worked incredibly hard for the State that he loved, and he worked through a system that he believed in called the legislative process. He was respected and admired by those of us who served alongside him in the State legislature.

And his tireless legislative work is one of the reasons North Dakota is doing so well today. As Bob would say: We are the envy of the Nation.

It hurts knowing my friend is gone, and I ask that we all keep his wife, Kathy, and the Stenehjem family in our thoughts and prayers.

North Dakota has lost a wonderful public servant. But I know that Bob's character and beliefs will continue through his policy and prosperity for years to come.

I will miss Bob very much.

AMERICANS LOSE WITH PASSAGE OF CUT, CAP, AND BALANCE

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I just heard celebration just a few minutes ago regarding the passage of the Cut, Cap, and Balance that really should be named the Tap Dance, Establishing the Losers Club for Americans, and the Busting of Benefits for Americans bill, because what we are doing is tap dancing around the responsibility of this Congress to in fact raise the debt limit as we have done 60 times.

And, of course, we are establishing losers by the very fact that interest rates will go up, Social Security and other benefits, Medicare will be gone, U.S. credit will be downgraded and the Chamber of Commerce and hundreds of businesses will in fact be begging for us to lift the debt ceiling.

But, more importantly, we will cause America's lack of paying her bills to hurt families and businesses. And let me introduce you to the losers. Now that this bill has passed, welcome to the losers: soldiers and their families, their grandparents and mothers and fathers who are back here in this country while they are on the front lines in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Today we just voted H.R. 2650 to in fact establish a club of losers for these patriots who have served their country. What a shame. What a shame.

TIME FOR WASHINGTON TO LIVE WITHIN ITS MEANS

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

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, tonight the House finally passed a real plan that addresses this Nation's spending crisis.

I think many American families out there already know that Washington

has had a spending problem, because they have been living within their means for a long time. They have been sitting around the kitchen table figuring out how to make do with what they have got. And yet in Washington, it seems like liberal leadership over here wants to ignore the problem.

We have passed a plan today in the House with Cut, Cap, and Balance that controls spending in Washington and puts us on a path to a balanced budget.

And what's the President's plan? We have still yet to hear his plan. All we hear are speeches and class warfare where the President tries to pit one group of Americans against another, as if corporate jet owners and millionaires and billionaires can solve the problem. If he confiscated every single dollar they have, it wouldn't address the problem.

Now it is time to get real. If the President wants to get serious about addressing the spending problems in this Nation, it is time for him to confront what Cut, Cap, and Balance really does, and that is to finally tell Washington it is time to start living within your means, just like families across this country have been doing for years.

□ 2040

MEDICARE UNDER ATTACK

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STUTZMAN). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) is recognized for half the remaining time until 10 p.m. as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. TONKO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

It is our pleasure during the next 40-or-so minutes to express concerns about a Medicare program that has served this Nation's seniors so very well for 45 years and is at risk of being ended.

Tonight, we witnessed on this floor the third such vote to end Medicare by the Republican majority. We know that our seniors would be forced to shop in a private market. The certainty of a guaranteed program that has been available to our Nation's seniors since 1966 is at risk. The money that the government would kick in for coverage would not keep pace with the costs for those health care policies, and so our seniors would be forced to dig into their pockets, reach into those pockets and perhaps have their costs, their contributions, more than doubled. This is an unnecessary step that is being taken against our Nation's seniors that is irresponsible.

We believe that what we have seen since that threshold in time in 1965 when we approved such a measure, the impact from the private sector health care industry has witnessed a growth of over 5,000 percent in the cost of premiums in that time since 1965. The impact on seniors has been certainly far