

brink of a fiscal emergency. If we do not pass a debt limit extension, the United States Government will default next week. Yet there still is no compromise.

The President, the Treasury Secretary, and others have outlined in explicit detail that default risks another catastrophic financial crisis and severe harm to American families, including the stoppage of Social Security checks, paychecks to our armed forces, and government contracts with the private sector. Food stamps, disability and veterans payments, paychecks to federal workers, IRS tax refunds, and black lung disease benefit payments are all vulnerable to interruption. In all, 70 million people and companies will be affected beginning next week.

In addition, we will lose, for the first time in our history, our AAA credit rating that establishes the United States as the world's safest investment. As a result, it will cost more to borrow money across the board, and this will have the effect of a huge tax increase on American households across the country. Municipalities and counties in every state will face this same stark reality—as will small businesses, millions of American homeowners, and countless others.

Speaker BOEHNER's legislation is fatally flawed because it provides for a two-step process to raise the debt limit. This is exactly the wrong approach. We need legislation that is long-term and balanced. That is the only thing that will provide the certainty and stability and confidence our economy needs and that the markets require. Keeping the debt limit on such a short leash only ensures that it will persist as the overriding, unresolved domestic policy issue for the next several months—perpetuating uncertainty and anxiety and discouraging investment and job creation.

By distracting this House from coherent action on what we urgently need to do today—raise the debt ceiling—the Republicans are courting disaster for every American who makes a house payment, or a car payment, or is paying off a credit card balance, or who has a business loan or a personal line of credit.

Mr. Speaker, we are at a very serious point. This is not the moment to engage in fantasy. This House must take its responsibilities seriously and do its proper duty for the nation. And that duty is not to wrap the budget and the American economy in a straightjacket. That proper duty is to authorize the payment of the debts we have incurred, restore certainty, and end the fear and anxiety their brinkmanship has instigated.

The bill before us is a vicious assault on Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, along with public health, scientific research and environmental protection. It is a prescription for default, a recipe for financial chaos, and a checklist of hardship and woe for the American people.

I urge its defeat.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the Republican Default Act.

I oppose this bill because it does nothing but guarantee another default crisis in six months. It's nothing more than another partisan gimmick that will quickly be voted down in the Senate.

The majority says it wants a plan to address our nation's deficit, and the President has worked with them to achieve this goal. He has negotiated in good faith and put everything on the table, demanding only that the plan be bal-

anced and responsible. And how did the majority respond? They refused to compromise and walked out of negotiations . . . twice.

Clearly, the majority is more focused on pushing their ideological agenda to end Medicare and preserve tax breaks for Big Oil and Wall Street than forging a good faith compromise to avoid default.

Mr. Speaker, compromising is what the American people send us here to do. As the President said, they voted for a divided government, not a dysfunctional one. It's time to stop the gimmicks and ensure our country does not default on its obligations.

Default would destroy close to 700,000 jobs, spike interest rates on credit cards and mortgages, and cause untold damage to our struggling economy.

Ronald Reagan took the necessary steps to avoid default 17 times. George W. Bush did it 7 times. No games. No gimmicks. Just a clean vote to avoid default and maintain the full faith and credit of the United States.

I urge my colleagues to come back to the table and forge the balanced and responsible compromise the American people deserve.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of S. 627 is postponed.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. REED). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote of the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

#### CHARLES "CHIP" LAWRENCE CHAN POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2548) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6310 North University Street in Peoria, Illinois, as the "Charles 'Chip' Lawrence Chan Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2548

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. CHARLES "CHIP" LAWRENCE CHAN POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6310 North University Street in Peoria, Illinois, shall be known and designated as the "Charles 'Chip' Lawrence Chan Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Charles 'Chip' Lawrence Chan Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

Mr. LANKFORD. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2548, introduced by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHOCK), would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6310 North University Street in Peoria, Illinois, as the "Charles 'Chip' Lawrence Chan Post Office Building."

This bill was reported from the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on June 22.

With that, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHOCK).

Mr. SCHOCK. I thank the gentleman and my good friend from Oklahoma for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I offer this legislation to designate the Federal post office located at 6310 North University Street in Peoria, Illinois, as the Charles "Chip" Lawrence Chan Post Office Building.

Mr. Speaker, we are quickly approaching the 10th anniversary of the horrific attacks of September 11, 2001. And while as Americans we can recall the events of that tragic day like they were yesterday, I offer this legislation in remembrance of all those Americans who died on that day. Specifically, this legislation would honor the life and sacrifice of Peoria, Illinois, resident Charles "Chip" Chan.

On September 11, 2001, Chip was a 23-year-old bond trader working for the brokerage firm of Cantor Fitzgerald on the 105th floor of 1 World Trade Center when terrorists flew an airplane into his building, killing thousands of individuals like Chip.

Chip graduated from my alma mater, Richwoods High School, in Peoria in 1995 and went on to attend the University of Illinois College of Commerce and Business where he graduated with a degree in economics. Soon after graduating, Chip received his first official job in, of all places, New York City. When trying to describe to family members or friends which tower he worked in, Chip would often say, The one with the antenna on top.

Chip was a member of the St. Thomas Catholic Church in Peoria Heights and was the son of John and Julie Chan. He was the oldest of six boys, brother to Christopher, Craig, Matthew, Mark, and Michael Chan.

When describing his son only days after September 11, his father John described Chip as a good athlete, a good learner, someone who was outgoing in

nature and with quick wit, always reading a book on business or economics to help him learn his trade.

Martin Luther King, Jr. once said that one of life's most urgent questions is What are you doing for others? Well, Chip, through the tragic and needless way that his life ended, along with close to 3,000 other Americans that day, did more for others in a way that united our country unlike ever before than many could imagine to achieve in 10 lifetimes.

As we approach the 10th anniversary of September 11, it is my hope that as a country we will remember what brought us together as a country in the days, weeks, and months after that horrific day. Today, I hope we draw upon that common unity, that sense of patriotism and pride for fellow mankind, as we look our neighbors and complete strangers in the eye and respect that while we may believe in different paths, that in the end we all share the same vision for a strong, secure, fair, and free America.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 2548.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleagues in support of H.R. 2548, which designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6310 North University Street in Peoria, Illinois, as the Charles "Chip" Lawrence Chan Post Office Building.

H.R. 2548 was introduced by our colleague, Representative AARON SCHOCK of Illinois, on July 14, 2011. And I, along with the entire Illinois delegation, are proud cosponsors of the underlying bill. The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform unanimously agreed to report out H.R. 2548, given the sad circumstances that led to the death of the bill's designee.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2548 will rename the post office in Peoria in honor of a young man who was unfortunately a victim of the tragic events of September 11, 2001.

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Chip, as he was affectionately known to family and friends, gave the full measure of the greatest devotion that one can display: He gave his life in support of his country and in service to his country.

I have no further speakers, Mr. Speaker, and so I urge passage of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. Speaker, I think this is a wonderful way to be able to honor someone, and this is something that we can do together as a Congress, to be able to honor this individual. I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 2548.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2548.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

#### CORPORAL STEVEN BLAINE RICCIONE POST OFFICE

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2244) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 67 Castle Street in Geneva, New York, as the "Corporal Steven Blaine Riccione Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2244

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. CORPORAL STEVEN BLAINE RICCIONE POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 67 Castle Street in Geneva, New York, shall be known and designated as the "Corporal Steven Blaine Riccione Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Corporal Steven Blaine Riccione Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

Mr. LANKFORD. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2244, introduced by the gentleman from New York (Mr. HANNA), would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 67 Castle Street in Geneva, New York, as the Corporal Steven Blaine Riccione Post Office.

The bill is cosponsored by the entire New York State delegation and was reported from the Committee on Over-

sight and Government Reform on June 22.

With that, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. HANNA).

Mr. HANNA. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2244, which designates a post office in Geneva, New York, as the Corporal Steven Blaine Riccione Post Office.

I introduced this legislation to extend long overdue recognition to a national hero from the 24th Congressional District.

Corporal Steven Riccione was a native of Geneva, New York. He was a Geneva High School graduate who volunteered to join the Army in 1967 during the Vietnam War.

While on a search and destroy mission with his platoon in Vietnam, Corporal Riccione came under intense enemy fire and became pinned down. Riccione, then a private, saw a machine gunner in his platoon get wounded. As Major General E.M. Strong described in his October 1967 account: "Private Riccione, with complete disregard for his own safety, rushed from his covered position through a vicious hail of enemy fire to aid his wounded comrade.

"He continuously exposed himself to the withering hail of enemy fire, standing up at times, to place effective fire on enemy positions. When his weapon was struck by an enemy bullet and was demolished, he undauntedly picked up a machine gun and charged an enemy bunker, killing two enemy soldiers.

"Shortly after, Private Riccione was mortally wounded while helping to evacuate wounded personnel under heavy enemy fire.

"Private Riccione's devotion to duty and personal courage were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army."

Corporal Riccione was killed in action while helping to evacuate wounded American soldiers.

As a result of Private Riccione's actions, Major General Strong recommended him for the Bronze Star Medal with Valor Device, and the Bronze Star Medal with First Oak Leaf Cluster, which he was posthumously awarded. He was also promoted to corporal.

Mr. Speaker, Corporal Riccione is a source of great pride to his family, his community in Geneva, my congressional district, and indeed to a grateful Nation.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation so that Corporal Riccione's memory may be honored in his own hometown of Geneva, New York, for generations to come.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform minority, I am pleased to