

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, when it comes to job creation, the American people are not waiting for the right speech but, rather, the right leadership.

While the Obama administration claims to seek common ground on which to help employers hire workers, House Republicans have already produced and passed more than a dozen job-creating bills through the House this year. We're going to do that here later today with the three trade bills that will create 250,000 jobs.

Unfortunately, these measures have long been ignored by the Senate and the White House. Where was the leadership? If President Obama is serious about helping create jobs, then he must listen to what job creators are actually saying. More than anything else, they need long-term confidence that Washington will stop punishing them with reckless red tape and threatening them with new taxes.

House Republicans are ready to work with the President, but not if it means supporting policies that only work against job creators and job-seekers.

□ 1230

JOBS

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

Mr. COHEN. Some few weeks ago, the President addressed this Congress in this Chamber about jobs and introduced the American Jobs Act. Something that would help small businesses, something that would help put policemen and firemen and teachers to work, something that would help rebuild schools, a bill that would appropriately put Americans back to work and address our problems, but the Senate killed it yesterday. We should have known, and we did know the Senate would kill it because Senator McCONNELL said right after the President was sworn in: Our main job is to see that he's not reelected.

The President is in support of these trade agreements. I'm not; he is. The Republicans are, but they don't give him credit for it. They condemn him today, the previous speaker, and yet he's for the trade agreements. He couldn't do anything for them. If he made them a kidney transplant, they'd want two. There's nothing he could do they'd think was right.

We need to create jobs. It's the main issue in my district and in this Nation. We need to work together to create jobs in America, and the millionaires need to pay their fair share.

JOBS

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

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, last night I was disappointed, although not

surprised, to see the Senate fail to arrive at the number of votes needed to bring cloture so that the American Jobs Act could be debated. They not only don't want to pass the jobs bill, they don't even want to debate the jobs bill. I thought that was an embarrassing moment for the U.S. Congress because, with 9.1 percent unemployment, with people who have been chronically unemployed for so long, one would think that we'd want to get down here and talk about jobs, bring forth our ideas, offer amendments, and do everything we could to try to help spur the American economy on. And yet we saw that jobs bill go down.

Mr. Speaker, the American people know that Congress can bring things up, and they can bring things up again. And as long as Americans are unemployed at the disgraceful rates that they are today, our Congress will never stop fighting to continue to bring jobs bills back to this Congress.

The Republican majority in this House has yet to bring a jobs bill. We hope to see one one day soon.

SUPPORT THE FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, passing the South Korea, Colombia, and Panama trade agreements will decrease our trade deficit and make it easier for U.S. companies to compete on a global level. Specifically, the U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement levels the playing field for Texas exports and translates into a potential duty-free savings of \$180 million for this fast-growing regional market.

For example, in the district I represent, Texas 22, Schlumberger exported \$6.7 million in machinery parts to Colombia in 2010 and paid over \$336,000 in duty fees. In Texas 22 alone, over 107,000 jobs are directly supported by over \$57 billion in exports.

Free trade means more money—money that stays with the companies in America, money that can be used to expand American businesses and grow American jobs.

I urge my colleagues to level the playing field for American businesses by supporting these three free trade agreements. Let's export American goods and services, not American jobs.

CHINA CURRENCY MANIPULATION

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

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, the trade agreements are front and center for us right now. But I have to ask you: What are you waiting for?

We talk about deficits; we talk about debt; we talk about trade agreements; but what is it that really would have an impact, and that is if you would set

for hearing the whole concept of currency manipulation. We have got to address China's manipulation of its yuan.

I just came running over from HASC, the House Armed Services Committee, and one of the issues that was raised there was we've got to do something about the yuan. China is outbuilding us. China is going to try to take over the Pacific. China is building ships. China is doing all of these things that put our defense and our people at risk.

So, Mr. Speaker, I ask you again: What are you waiting for? Let's hear that currency manipulation bill that has 226 of us, bipartisan support. Let's hear it. It's time to really come to grips with what is truly our problem, how this bill will then affect issues such as the deficit and the debt and increase our GDP. Think about it, Mr. Speaker.

JOBS

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

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, it's a very important day today.

Five hundred and nineteen years ago, Columbus discovered America. He was on a trade mission. But the problem is that today, instead of dealing with trade missions and all the rest, we ought to have the bill out here that the President presented on creating jobs for American workers.

Now, this Congress has been in session for 300-some-odd days. With the Republicans talking about all of the problems of this society and how the President's plan hasn't worked, they have yet to bring to this floor a presentation of a way to create jobs for American workers.

These trade agreements, they say, well, if we had a level playing field with Korea and all of these other places, suddenly we would have a lot of jobs here. There is a much better way and a much surer way to provide jobs here in this country. My predecessor here talked about manipulation by the Chinese of our currency, which has been estimated to cut out a million jobs. There are other things we ought to be doing today than these free trade agreements.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 12, 2011.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
The Speaker, U.S. Capitol,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on October 12, 2011 at 9:11 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 1619.
With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

UNITED STATES-COLOMBIA TRADE
PROMOTION AGREEMENT IMPLE-
MENTATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of the bill (H.R. 3078) to implement the United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement will now resume.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP) has 30 minutes remaining.

Mr. CAMP. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

At this time I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from North Dakota (Mr. BERG), a distinguished member of the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. BERG. Mr. Speaker, we've been waiting for these trade agreements for a long time. Every day that goes by without them has been a missed opportunity. At a time when our economy is struggling, these trade agreements mean more opportunities for Americans. They mean more American exports. And, most importantly, they mean more American jobs.

We've already seen the benefits of trade in North Dakota. Our exports have more than doubled over the last 5 years because of our renewed commitment to free trade. These trade agreements before us today could increase exports by \$23 million in North Dakota alone and \$13 billion nationwide.

If we're serious about creating jobs, if we're serious about getting our economy back on track and allowing the U.S. to stay competitive in a fast-moving global market, passing these trade agreements is a critical first step. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting them.

□ 1240

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN).

Mr. LEVIN. I yield 1 minute to the very distinguished gentlelady from California (Mrs. CAPPs).

Mrs. CAPPs. I thank my colleague for yielding.

I rise today in opposition to the Colombia Free Trade Agreement. I oppose this bill for many reasons. First, Colombia does not yet meet the high standards we should be demanding of our trading partners. While Colombia has made admirable progress, trade unionists continue to be brutally murdered and attacked. This is unacceptable. We can't just look the other way and hope things get better.

Second, this agreement makes permanent the trade preferences that have absolutely devastated California's cut flower industry, which produces 80 percent of domestically grown flowers. This agreement continues millions of dollars in subsidies for Colombia flower

growers but provides no such support for our domestic growers. California's growers have developed a plan to cut costs and compete globally, but they can't do it alone. It's only fair that our domestic flower growers get a little help from their government, too. This FTA is a huge missed opportunity to help this valued domestic industry.

For these, and so many other reasons, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on the Colombia Free Trade Agreement.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to a distinguished member of the Ways and Means Committee, the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. JENKINS).

Ms. JENKINS. Thank you, Mr. Chair, for yielding, and thank you for your leadership in this area.

It has been nearly 5 years since we signed our trade agreement with Colombia, and although I'm disappointed that it took this long, I am so pleased we will be ratifying this agreement today. Once this trade deal has passed, we will finally have what our Trade Subcommittee chairman Representative BRADY has correctly labeled a "Sell American" agreement with the third-largest economy in South and Central America.

Exports of American goods will increase by more than \$1 billion, and the ITC expects our stagnant GDP will get a boost of at least \$2.5 billion, not to mention Kansas wheat farmers can look forward to an even larger share of the Colombian grain market.

It's been 5 years in the making, but we are finally here. I urge my colleagues to come together and support the pro-jobs, pro-growth Colombian Free Trade Agreement.

Mr. LEVIN. It is now my privilege to yield 3 minutes to the distinguished member of our committee, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. I want to thank my friend and colleague Mr. LEVIN for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the United States-Colombia free trade agreement. Some of my colleagues do not believe that the issue of human rights and the issue of the rule of law should be addressed through our trade policy. Some believe it is not about stolen lands, ransacked homes. It is not about human rights activists whose families and friends were harassed and disappeared. It is not about murdered labor leaders. It is not about a crisis that is only comparable to Sudan.

Trade for the sake of trade. Money for the sake of money. Let someone else care. Let someone else do it. Let someone else work on the human rights. Let someone else fight for justice. Let someone else worry about peace, order, and tranquility. All we need to do is find the cheapest, fastest, and easiest way to make a buck.

My friends, we're mistaken to believe that this is not about us. But the crisis in Colombia affects every part of our

region. It affects millions forced from their homes. It helped to create the drug cartels and international gangs. It impacts the cost of crack and cocaine on every single street on America.

We cannot ask someone else to address the violence. We cannot leave the question of corruption and impunity to another leader, another generation. We must demand these answers now. If we don't, who will? It is up to us. We can do better. It is on our watch.

Mr. Speaker, today is a very sad day. We could have taken our time and done it right.

Today, we are abandoning our duty to the people who elected us and to millions of Colombians who now know that their cries fell on deaf ears and cold hearts. We can do better. We must do better. This Congress and this administration must have the courage to stand up and do what is right and be on the right side of history. It is a missed opportunity for change, for good, if we fail to do what is right.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to a distinguished member of the Ways and Means Committee, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHOCK).

Mr. SCHOCK. First, I thank the chairman for his leadership in support of these agreements.

Let me say I agree with the President. The passage of the Colombia, Panama, and South Korea trade agreements will mean 250,000 new jobs at a time when our economy needs them most. But these trade agreements, Mr. Speaker, aren't just about new jobs. They're about the millions of Americans who rely on new markets and new customers. In my district in central Illinois alone, Illinois' farmers depend on customers in South Korea, in Panama, and in Colombia. And when the United States of America does nothing, we lose market share.

Five years ago, when this agreement was negotiated, Colombians purchased 60 percent of their wheat from the United States' farmers. Today, that number is 30 percent. It's costing jobs and it's costing opportunity here in our country. In manufacturing in my home area, Caterpillar, one of the major manufacturers of our country, employs a lot of high-wage union jobs, manufacturing jobs. Eight out of 10 of the tractors that are built in my district are sent to other customers around the world. With only 5 percent of the world's population in this country, it takes a pretty defeatist mentality to believe that our country would be better off not selling to the other 95 percent of the world.

Mr. Speaker, today, the House of Representatives will pass a jobs bill, a jobs bill that can pass the House, a jobs bill that can pass the Senate, and a jobs bill, Mr. Speaker, that the President of the United States has already said he will sign into law. And this jobs bill, Mr. Speaker, does not require a tax increase. This jobs bill does not require us to go into debt. And this jobs bill has bipartisan support and is good