

Mr. Speaker, Senator MCCAIN needs to study up more on the economy and reject the failed economic policies of the last 8 years.

REPUBLICANS WILL NOT BE SILENCED ON ENERGY ISSUES

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

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, the American people are not only frustrated; they are absolutely outraged this morning when they wake up to discover that not only has the Speaker of the House decided there won't be any new energy production this year, in 2008, no relief is on the way, she has also decided political speech is not going to be allowed on the floor of this House.

This morning, Republicans were so outraged when they heard what the Democrat Congress had done, that 150 of our Members planned to be on the floor to talk about the outrage of this bill. When the Speaker heard that, she decided to limit us to 30 people being able to speak this morning.

Well, Mr. Speaker, one thing that will not be put under a bushel will be the outrage of the American people over this perceived and actual hoax of a bill, this charade we are going to vote on today.

I have in my hand amendments that I had hoped to offer to give Americans some real energy production. Not only will they not be allowed, but the voices of the American people will not be heard on this floor this morning, because the Speaker of the House has decided it will not be.

I am afraid, Mr. Speaker, that Speaker PELOSI has vastly underrated the American people. They will not be squelched. They will be heard. Our voices will be heard on this issue. We will not be silenced.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to heed the gavel and will limit their remarks to 1 minute.

COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY PACKAGE WILL GIVE MONEY TO TAXPAYERS AND CONSUMERS

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, this week Congress will vote on an all-inclusive energy package that will lower gas prices for consumers and put money back in taxpayers' pockets.

The Democratic energy plan will require oil companies to pay royalties on leases they have had for years but never paid to use. Big Oil has raked in record profits, the largest in American

history this year, while Americans pump hundreds of dollars into their gas tank. It is time Big Oil pay American taxpayers the \$15 billion it owes all of us for drilling on the American people's land.

For years, Washington Republicans have been showering Big Oil with tax breaks and subsidies. With the big oil companies amassing record profits every quarter, they certainly don't need this corporate welfare. The Democratic plan will repeal these giveaways to the big five oil companies and invest money in renewable money and programs, like LIHEAP, that will help Americans heat their homes this winter.

Mr. Speaker, the Democratic energy plan helps Americans who have been suffering from George Bush's failed energy policies for far too long.

PROPOSED ENERGY BILL IS A SHAM

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

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, it is a good thing we don't have Pinocchio working in this House or we would have some noses growing. To stand up and say this is a bipartisan bill when the first Republican saw it, I was present when it happened at 9:45 last night while we were speaking on the floor of the House, ought to make somebody's nose grow.

To call this a bipartisan bill is a sham, and we ought to call it what it is. This is a bill shoved down the throats of the American people, without the voice of the majority of the Members of this House having anything to do with this energy plan.

Look right here and see what it doesn't do: No real offshore exploration; no renewables without high taxes; no real oil shale drilling; off limits permanently, Arctic coastal plain; emissions-free nuclear, no; clean coal, coal-to-liquid, no; new refinery capacity, no. We got five of them out in Texas right now. No energy tax hike, no; no electricity spikes, no; lawsuit reform, no; playing politics with energy, yes.

That is what we have been given today. That is what we have. Meanwhile, on the coast, people suffer. Let's really address energy.

DEMOCRAT ENERGY PLAN SIDES WITH CONSUMERS WHILE GOP ENERGY PLAN SIDES WITH BIG OIL

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

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, while Big Oil rakes in record profits this year, American families are struggling with pain at the pump. House Democrats are working to pass a comprehensive energy plan that lowers prices for consumers, expands renewable energy

and creates good-paying jobs here at home.

The old Bush-Cheney policy, written by and for the oil companies, is the gift that keeps on giving to Big Oil; more land, more public land, more taxpayer dollars and more record profits.

Every Representative in this House has a clear choice this month: Talk about an all-of-the-above plan, or take action. They can join with Democrats in siding with consumers struggling with energy costs, or continue to side with Big Oil. They can support a policy that will create good-paying American jobs and increase our Nation's security, or continue to argue for a drill-only plan. As T. Boone Pickens has said clearly, this is one problem we cannot drill our way out of.

Mr. Speaker, the Democratic energy plan will bring down prices at the pump and invest in renewable energy for our future. It deserves strong bipartisan support.

ALL-OF-THE-ABOVE ENERGY ACT NEEDED

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

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, for the last 2 months we have been telling the Speaker and the Democratic majority that we need an all-of-the-above American Energy Act, and the Speaker has responded by saying any bill that includes drilling is a hoax.

Well, Mr. Speaker, she has presented at 10 o'clock last night a 290-page hoax in regard to the drilling provision. It is absolutely a hoax. It gives absolutely no revenues to the States for any drilling between 50 and 100 miles. We already allow that off the coasts of Texas and Louisiana, and you are going to expect these east coast States or California to let us drill with no revenue sharing? It ain't going to happen, and she knows it.

Now, in regard to the energy proposals that we have made in the American Energy Act, we have 10 up here, and none of these are included in the Pelosi no energy bill. None of the above. NOTA. Think of the acronym, N-O-T-A, not an energy bill.

If she would give us four of these; real offshore exploration, emission-free nuclear, new refinery capacity, who could say we don't need that, and lawsuit reform, so the extreme environmentalists don't destroy every opportunity.

This is not an energy bill. NOTA, N-O-T-A.

COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY PACKAGE WILL INVEST IN RENEWABLE ENERGY AND CREATE JOBS

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

Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, very shortly this Congress,

this Democratic Congress, is going to do what the Republicans failed to do for more than a decade of their leadership, and that is to present and vote on a comprehensive energy package that will expand renewable sources of energy for the future and create good-paying jobs here in America.

This plan for the 21st century extends tax incentives for renewable energy, hybrid cars, energy-efficient buildings and homes. It requires utility companies to generate 15 percent of their electricity from renewable sources such as wind, geothermal and solar power.

This is our new energy future. And the legislation forces oil companies to pay their fair share for drilling on the American people's land. Big Oil should pay taxpayers to use their land. We will use that money, \$15 billion, to develop clean energy sources and alternative fuels, to develop greater efficiency and improve conservation.

Investments in renewable energy will create hundreds of thousands of good-paying jobs here in America, at a time when the Bush economy is shedding tens of thousands of jobs every month.

Mr. Speaker, this is a comprehensive energy plan. It is a Democratic plan that the American people have been waiting for for the future. Republicans just don't get it. This plan is about the future and not about the past.

□ 1030

ENERGY BILL FAILS AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the Democrat hoax energy bill appears to be another disappointing response to families hurt by high gasoline prices. Never mind the fact that this bill was written by the House Democrat leadership, never considered in committee and devoid of any input from the minority.

Among the numerous troubling parts of their proposal is the refusal to allow States such as South Carolina to share in revenues from offshore drilling. What a slap to those coastal communities to say that we will drill off your coast, but yet withhold revenues.

This is the money that could help pay for new roads and beach renourishment. Meanwhile, they insist on a renewable energy mandate that will increase America's electric bills and harm our rural electric co-ops. They raise taxes and fail to address refineries, ANWR or expanding clean nuclear power.

This bill is a hoax on the American people. It won't become law, and the Democrat leadership knows it. This is not leadership and not what the American people deserve.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th.

REPUBLICANS CLAIM THEY WANT ALL OF THE ABOVE—BUT HAVE DONE NOTHING TO LOWER GAS PRICES

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

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, for 8 years, Washington Republicans have favored record profits for Big Oil while Americans are paying record prices at the pump. Congressional Republicans say they want an all-of-the-above plan, but their actions speak differently. Republicans have voted against every piece of legislation that would responsibly invest in renewable energy and would bring down gas prices for consumers.

We proposed legislation to crack down on price gouging and curb excess speculation, but House Republicans said no. We proposed lowering gas prices immediately by tapping the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, which lowered prices by 33 percent when the President's father took similar action in 1991, but Republicans said no. We proposed legislation that would force Big Oil to drill on 68 million acres of land to increase oil production here at home. Again, House Republicans said no.

This week, the Republicans will have the opportunity to support real reform and say yes.

NO DRILL, NO ENERGY BILL

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

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, when Speaker PELOSI said that an energy bill that included drilling would be a hoax, she knew what she was talking about.

Last night, in the dead of night, the Democratic leadership brought forward a no drill, no energy bill. That bill is a hoax on the American people, just as she said it would be. You can put lipstick on a no-drill, no-energy bill, but it's still a no-drill, no-energy bill.

I have introduced legislation, many others have, to allow the States to participate in drilling off their coasts. Their bill prohibits that.

We will see no drilling, we will see no oil production, no access to oil production in more than 90 percent of the areas where oil exists, and we should go after it. Nothing in this bill for nuclear power, nothing in this bill for coal-to-liquid technology, nothing in this bill for the American people, nothing in this bill for my constituents, nothing but a hoax on the American people.

MCCAIN'S ASSESSMENT OF ECONOMY SHOWS THAT HE REALLY IS NOT AN EXPERT ON THE ECONOMY

(Mr. WELCH of Vermont asked and was given permission to address the

House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Mr. Speaker, it's becoming quite apparent that our economy is in peril. The biggest casualty in this economy are middle-class families trying to hang on by their fingernails.

We have got a different point of view by our leadership. President Bush says that the 500-point collapse is just, quote, a correction. Mr. MCCAIN, Senator MCCAIN says the economy is fundamentally sound.

The reality is that the economy has become weak, with policies that have deregulated financial institutions leading to the collapse of some of our longest-standing, historically most solid institutions like Lehman Brothers. For 8 years, the Bush-McCain economic policy has had a radical proposition that we can deregulate everything and leave everything to Wall Street, and it will all take care of itself.

Now American families, businesses on Main Street, are beginning to pay the price for this economic failure under the Bush administration.

The only way we can change our economy is by returning to the basic principle that our economic policies should all be about building the middle class.

EIGHTY DOLLARS TO FILL UP A MINIVAN IS A CRISIS

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

Mr. KELLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, when a single mom in Orlando, Florida, is paying \$80 to fill up her minivan, that's a crisis. It's a crisis that this Democratic energy bill does not address.

Now, why doesn't it address it? Democratic colleagues at the Sierra Club, the head of the Sierra Club said, "We're better off without cheap gas." Well, let's look at the specifics. There is no ANWR in this bill whatsoever, even though it's the single largest untapped source of oil in the United States of America.

With 10.4 billion barrels of oil available, that's enough to provide all of Florida's energy needs for 29 years. It's enough to give us 1 million barrels of oil a day every single day for the next 30 years, but it's nowhere in the bill.

Why? Because we're better off without cheap gas, according to the Democrats and their colleagues. Well, we are not better off without cheap gas, we are better off without cheap political stunts, and that's what this Democratic energy bill is.

I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on it and give us an up-or-down vote on the American Energy Act.

BILLIONS OF DOLLARS NEEDED TO RECOVER FROM HURRICANE IKE

(Mr. AL GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the