

Yet, applications for technical jobs dropped by almost 50 percent over the last 2 years.

With a potential looming recession for those holding office jobs, many might be disappointed they missed out on learning a high-skilled trade. Fortunately, it isn't too late. Many open technical jobs pay a six-figure salary, and businessowners are struggling to fill them.

If I had to give young people advice today, it would be to consider learning a high-skilled trade.

LOOMING DEBT CEILING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I was very encouraged with today's reports that the Republican leadership is planning to teach their Members about how the debt ceiling works. This is a very good sign, especially after the embarrassing first week with 15 votes to elect a Speaker, and the House leadership ending up exactly where it started. Unfortunately, the leadership is hallowed out, but they have empowered the exact same element or any other faction who want to hold the Speaker hostage.

But there is a key difference going forward. They are playing games with the full faith and credit of the United States, which is underpinning the global economy. Note, the debt ceiling is not just a way station on the way to a full government shutdown. While government shutdowns have real costs and consequences, the debt ceiling has massive ramifications that you cannot unwind.

This game of chicken with the global economy is very much more consequential. You can recover from the shutdown. But the Trump attacks on professionals, for example, drove thousands of people out of government service, and it is going to take years and millions of dollars to repair. These implementations of political slogans have real consequences.

In the end, I suspect we will be right where we started. The only way to reduce the deficit, to balance the budget books, is to actually reduce government spending, which they refused to do in the Trump administration when they were in total control of the government. They instead had a huge increase in the deficit. There were, of course, tax cuts that were a part of that, unfunded, and there was a major spike in military spending.

My friend, Hal Harvey, a leader in climate science, is fond of saying that you can't refute science, math, and economics. That is exactly the situation that my Republican friends are facing with this game of chicken with the debt ceiling.

There is no gimmick, there is no commission, and there is no slogan that avoids the painful truth that you

actually have to reduce spending. There are real things we could do.

I would suggest any Member could avail themselves of a secret weapon that is in each and every one of our districts. There are amazing young people who are involved with civics, with leadership congresses, with the efforts to understand how government works. I think we ought to employ them. They understand the dynamic: Cut spending, raise taxes, or just collect the taxes that are due and owing, which would be hundreds of billions of dollars. Unless and until we do this, all the rest is simply meaningless slogans and posturing, unfortunately with real risks of threatening the full faith and credit of the United States.

My friends have no alternative to the borrowing, and I am afraid that we are going to end up going through this meaningless exercise, agitating ourselves, confusing the public, and losing an opportunity to make real progress, improving the budgeting process, and making the tax system more effective to just collect the taxes that are already due and owing, which we are ignoring.

I strongly encourage the process that my Republican friends are involved with in terms of educating Members about the impacts of the debt ceiling, and I hope that we are able to come together to deal with the realities of what that implies.

RECOGNIZING STATE-OF-THE-ART UGA POULTRY SCIENCE BUILDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the creation of a state-of-the-art poultry science building at my alma mater, the University of Georgia.

In the State of Georgia, the poultry industry contributes an annual \$21.5 billion to our State's economy. The industry also generates an annual \$2.1 billion in Federal tax revenue. The poultry industry is vital to not only the State of Georgia but also the country. That is why I am proud to recognize the University of Georgia for building a brand-new poultry science building on their campus.

This \$54.1 million facility will feature new classrooms, research labs, and learning labs. These new labs will enhance the traditional classroom experience by offering students opportunities to learn in a fieldwork setting. These facilities are vital for preparing students as they enter the poultry industry.

I know this new project will serve the students at the university and the people of Georgia's First District well.

GEORGIA AMONG LEED-CERTIFIED TOP 10

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the State of Georgia for being a top 10 finisher in the country last year for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design-certified green buildings.

The United States Green Building Council has been working hard to create a healthier, more sustainable, and resilient world through LEED, and its annual ranking is an opportunity to recognize everyone working toward that goal.

Buildings that are LEED certified create healthier spaces for people, use fewer resources, reduce carbon emissions, and improve efficiency while providing operational cost savings.

Georgia is a leader in green building and ranks sixth out of the top 10 States. 2022 saw growth in green building and sustainability, and I am proud that Georgia is at the forefront of building a healthier, more sustainable future.

I thank all the building professionals who helped our State achieve this ranking.

RECOGNIZING GEORGIA PORTS AUTHORITY

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Georgia Ports Authority for handling nearly 6 million 20-foot containers in 2022. In 2022 alone, the Georgia Ports Authority had a 5 percent increase in container handling.

Collaborative effort across Georgia's supply chain ensured that cargo movement remained a top priority during a very challenging year.

The Port of Savannah achieved 4 of its top 5 months for container volume in 2022, with trade volumes peaking in August at an all-time high of 575,500 20-foot containers.

With the renovation of Berth 1 at Garden City Terminal, the 90-acre Garden City Terminal West expansion, and the transition of Ocean Terminal to an all-container facility, the Port of Savannah is set to increase annual capacity from 6 million to 7.5 million 20-foot containers.

I congratulate the GPA on this wonderful accomplishment.

HONORING RIVERSIDE COUNTY DEPUTY ISAAH CORDERO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. RUIZ) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a fallen hero, Riverside County Sheriff's Department Deputy Isaiah Cordero, who gave his life serving our community.

Every day, our law enforcement officers put on their uniforms, kiss their loved ones good-bye, and go to work not knowing if they will come home.

On December 29, 2022, Deputy Cordero put on his uniform, said good-bye to his loved ones, and went to work that day to protect and serve. That afternoon, he was tragically shot and killed in the line of duty during what should have been a routine traffic stop.

Now, a family mourns a loved one, our local law enforcement grieves a brother, and our community lost a guardian, protector, and friend.

Deputy Cordero's service began with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department as a correctional deputy on May