

**Floor Statement of Rep. John Garamendi**  
**Safe Climate Caucus**  
**July 9, 2013**

Thank you madam chair,

A few moments ago I talked about priorities. Seven billion, six-hundred plus million dollars for nuclear weapons.

We just heard the gentleman discuss the issue of locks and levies and ports. Projects in my district, for the ports, for deepening the channels, for rebuilding and expanding the economic activity of this nation, are not going to be funded.

Do we really need to spend an additional seven billion, six-hundred plus million dollars on nuclear weapons when we have over 8,000, Russia over 7,000, China 250, do we really need to spend the money there, or do we need to spend it on our economic activity, as the gentleman just said.

But there's not enough money in the Corps of Engineers budget to provide for all of the ports, all of the improvements that are needed so that our ports on the west coast, east coast, gulf coast, can be competitive. But apparently we have enough money.

Why don't we take some of the money out of this program and put it where it will be immediately beneficial? It's a matter of priorities.

Where your money is where your heart is. Ok – it's not where my heart is. We talked about all of the above energy – we ought to talk about all of the above energy, but yet, ARPA-E, where we create the new science, the new technology, the new programs that will provide us with new energy sources, improved energy sources, and the improvement of old energy sources: gutted, gutted, 87% reduction.

The office of science, where we do real research, where we really can do all of the above, whether it is coal, or oil, or renewables, gutted. A 73% reduction. Where are our priorities?

Where are the priorities of the House of Representatives? Is it to build more nuclear weapons, that by the grace of God we will never use? 8,000 of them?

Or is it to build a levee? Or is it to make sure that the researchers at our universities and laboratories have the money that they need to really deal with the problem of the future, which is climate change.

It's about priorities. Madam Chair, it's about priorities, and I ask my colleagues, through you of course, what are the priorities? They are listed very clearly in your legislation.