Madam Speaker, I want to agree with my good friend from

Texas (Mr. DeLay) that we need to do everything we can to avoid any

kind of tax hikes.

However, I think all Americans would expect that the top 1 percent of

the income earners in this country, who receive most of the benefit

from the administration's tax cuts, should have to give up some of

their tax cuts in order to relieve the burden on the people in the gulf

coast. It is only fair.

America can meet its responsibilities, but we are going to have to

roll back those tax breaks that were given to the wealthiest Americans

in order to help the least of our brethren.

We can also save money by planning an exit strategy out of Iraq.

Wherever I go in my district, people say, get us out of Iraq. Well, it

is time for us to have an exit strategy. That is what House Joint

Resolution 55 is about, a bipartisan exit strategy.

We can do things to have the resources to take care of people in the

gulf. But we first have to get out of the Persian Gulf. And we also

have to get out of this thinking that says that tax cuts are somehow

the way to economic recovery.