

Cuts

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choose between, 'let's see, do I close funding for the disabled kid, or the poor kid? Do I close this Navy shipyard or some other one?'" Obama said. "You can't gloss over the pain and the impact it's going to have on the economy."

Giving the Obama administration more authority could take pressure off of Congress to address the sequester. But the White House is also keenly aware that it would give Republicans an opening to blame Obama, instead of themselves, for every unpopular cut he makes.

Not all Republicans were on board, either.

"We'll say, 'Mr. President, it is now up to you to find this \$85 billion in savings,' and we'll say it's to make it easier for you, but every

decision he'll make, we'll criticize," acknowledged Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina in a CNN interview Monday.

The White House has warned the \$85 billion in cuts could affect everything from commercial flights to classrooms to meat inspections. The cuts would slash domestic and defense spending, leading to forced unpaid days off for hundreds of thousands of workers.

The impact won't be immediate. Federal workers would be notified next week that they will have to take up to a day off every week without pay, but the furloughs won't start for a month due to notification requirements. That will give negotiators some breathing room to work on a deal.

Although Obama was to discuss the cuts among other topics Tuesday in a White House meeting with Graham and GOP Sen. John McCain, there were no indications that negotiations between Obama and congressional leaders were under way. Dampening hopes for a

compromise was a key disagreement about whether new tax revenue, by way of closing loopholes and deductions, should be included in any deal, as Obama has insisted.

In the Republican-controlled House, Speaker John Boehner of Ohio said he'd already done his part, explaining that the House twice passed bills to replace the cuts with more targeted reductions.

"We should not have to move a third bill before the Senate gets off their ass and begins to do something," Boehner told reporters.

Senate Democrats have prepared a measure that would forestall the automatic cuts through the end of the year, replacing them with longer-term cuts to the Pentagon and cash payments to farmers, and by installing a minimum 30 percent tax rate on income exceeding \$1 million. But that plan is virtually certain to be topped by a GOP-led filibuster vote later this week.

Drivers

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the task force that wrote the bills, said the leading cause of death for those aged 14 to 17 is traffic crashes. Those crashes account for 44 percent of deaths in that age range in South Dakota, but 39 percent nationwide.

"We do have a problem. The safety of our teens and others on the road is at risk," Tieszen said.

The measure prohibiting beginning drivers from using a cellphone while behind the wheel passed on an 85 vote.

Thirty-three states and the District of Columbia have already banned the use of cellphones by novice drivers. The South Dakota Legislature has repeatedly rejected measures to ban cellphone use by all drivers, but committee members said it's time to take the devices out of the hands of beginning motorists.

Tieszen said using a cell phone distracts drivers, particularly young ones.

Molly McCaskell, a member of a teen safety group in Rapid City, said 75 percent of teens have cell phones and many of the calls they make are while driving. If a driver diverts attention from the road for five seconds to deal with a phone, the vehicle travels 100 yards, she said.

"That five seconds could change a lot in our young people's lives as well as in your own," she said.

The restriction would go into effect July 1 if passed by the full House.

Another bill, defeated by a 9-4 vote, would have required beginning drivers to keep instruction permits for a year before moving to restricted permits that allow them to drive alone. Those who completed drivers' education courses could have moved to restricted permits after nine months.

South Dakota allows 14-year-olds to get instruction permits, the nation's youngest age for driving while accompanied by an adult. Those young drivers can graduate to re-

stricted permits that allow them to drive alone in the daytime after six months, or just 90 days if they have completed a drivers' education course.

Tieszen said teens will be safer if they spend more time driving with parents before they can drive alone.

But some lawmakers said teens need to drive to school and other activities so their parents don't have to interrupt their work to transport them. Teens in rural areas also need to drive trucks and other farm vehicles at a young age, they said.

Rep. Dean Schremp, D-Lanry, said his eight children learned to drive at age 7 or 8 on his ranch.

"I think if the parents would be able to work with these kids, they'd be able to drive at an earlier age," Schremp said.

But Rep. Steve Hickey, R-Sioux Falls, said he supported a longer learning period because as a pastor, he too often must accompany a police officer to tell parents a teen has died in a traffic crash.

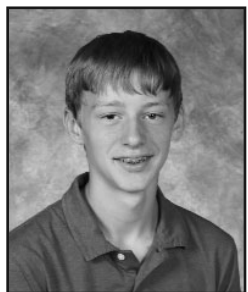
"Those are really, really bad times," Hickey said.

A+ Students of the Week



Bridget Arens

Parents: Gary and Joselyn Arens
Grade: 12th
School: Crofton High School
Why Nominated? Bridget demonstrates a positive attitude and personal drive toward learning all she can in every class. She wears a smile even when confronted with a challenge. Bridget's leadership and determination has contributed to her athletic success also. She has earned numerous awards and honors for her character and ability. She is also CHS's Student Council President.
Favorite Subject(s): Psychology
Favorite School Memory(s): Winning C-2 State Basketball Championship in 2012.



Ryan Haggerty

Parents: Dan and Heather Haggerty
Grade: 9th
School: Freeman Academy
Favorite Subject(s): Algebra 2 and Spanish
Favorite School Memory(s): Participating in State Cross Country



Genny Clark

Guardians: Christine and Daniel Iiams
Grade: 9th
School: Gayville-Volin School
Why Nominated? Genny is unashamed of her hard work and positive attitude in and out of the classroom. She is quickly becoming a leader in our school.
Favorite Subject(s): Algebra I and Physical Science.
Favorite School Memory(s): When our team took 2nd at state and I won. Then on our way back we were escorted to the school by the firetruck. We were greeted by a crowd full of fans. It was one of the best days of my life.



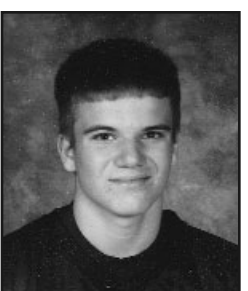
Danielle Riesberg

Parents: Dale & Karen Riesberg
Grade: 12th
School: Crofton High School
Why Nominated? Dani's talents can be seen in the classroom, on the course, on stage, in an art gallery, and that is just the beginning. Dani is a 4.0 student whose positive attitude, leadership, and work ethic have contributed to her numerous success.
Favorite Subject(s): English, Art, and Psychology
Favorite School Memory(s): My favorite school memories would be the ones I've made with my cross country teammates, winning state, my track teammates, and especially the good times in Mrs. Pier's home-room.



Brooklyn Ries

Parents: Duane and Donna Ries
Grade: 10th
School: Freeman Academy
Favorite Subject(s): Math
Favorite School Memory(s): A favorite memory of mine would be putting on the musical "Babes in Toyland." Putting on this show, or any others in previous years, is a lot of work, but you get to spend a lot of time with other classmates and get to know them much better.



Brandon VanOsdal

Parents: Barry and Janine VanOsdal
Grade: 10th
School: Gayville-Volin School
Why Nominated? Brandon is a bright young man who is a leader by nature. He is a positive role model for his peers and the younger students in our school.
Favorite Subject(s): Biology, U.S. History, Ag, Business Management, Algebra II.
Favorite School Memory(s): Beating Baltic at home in football and starting things on fire in Physical Science during my freshman year.



Henry Goeden

Parents: Rod & Ruth Goeden
Grade: 12th
School: Crofton High School
Why Nominated? Academically, Henry is in the top 5% of his class. His work ethic & leadership skills have also contributed to his athletic success. He helped his cross country team qualify for state.
Favorite Subject(s): Math
Favorite School Memory(s): Mrs. Bruening's Algebra II class.



Ryan Brockmueller

Parents: Myles and Lisa Brockmueller
Grade: 7th
School: Freeman Academy
Favorite Subject(s): Math and Art
Favorite School Memory(s): Having student body sing happy birthday to me at a spring concert.



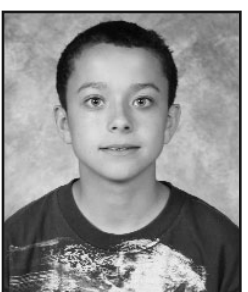
Wyatt Jorgensen

Parents: Jim and Angela Jorgensen
Grade: 7th
School: Gayville-Volin School
Favorite Subject(s): Social Studies
Why Nominated? Wyatt is a great student! He is a hard worker who is always willing to help his peers. Wyatt also contributes to the school environment by participating in football, student council, and band.
Favorite School Memory(s): This year my football team went undefeated. We went 17-0.



Matthew Guenther

Parents: Glen & Debra Guenther
Grade: 12th
School: Crofton High School
Why Nominated? Matthew is a 4.0 student and is ranked in the top 10% of his class. His good attitude and ability can also be found on the course. Matthew lead his teammates to the state cross country meet.
Favorite Subject(s): Math
Favorite School Memory(s): Taking care of my Uncle's corn snake in Biology 2.



Derian Voigt

Parents: Paul and Tracy Voigt
Grade: 8th
School: Freeman Academy
Favorite Subject(s): Math, Art, and Science
Favorite School Memory(s): Winning an award in School's art contest.



Rachel Nickles

Parents: Robin Nickles and Joe Nickles
Grade: 8th
School: Gayville-Volin School
Favorite Subject(s): Science
Why Nominated? Rachel is a highly motivated student, team member, citizen and friend. She is not satisfied with less than her best.
Favorite School Memory(s): When my friends, Grace Dangel and Laura Nelson, and I were little and ran around the playground thinking we could see ghosts.



Tiffany Tramp

Parents: Mark and Shawnel Tramp
Grade: 12th
School: Crofton High School
Why Nominated? Tiffany's determination and work ethic can be found in the classroom and on the course. Tiffany has a 4.0 GPA and has placed all four years at the state cross country meet.
Favorite Subject(s): Psychology and Anatomy.
Favorite School Memory(s): Bus rides home from cross country meets.



Gabriel Eisenbeis

Parents: Tim and Anita Eisenbeis
Grade: 11th
School: Freeman Academy
Favorite Subject(s): Chemistry and Calculus
Favorite School Memory(s): My favorite school memory was being on the soccer team and having a great coach.



Rachel Haas

Parents: Michelle Haas
Grade: 11th
School: Gayville-Volin School
Why Nominated? Rachel is a student who is always trying to please everyone. She will do whatever is asked of her. She is very active in school, both academics and activities.
Favorite Subject(s): Trigonometry and Anatomy.
Favorite School Memory(s): Making the fire alarms go off from burning things in Chemistry class. Also, beating Baltic in volleyball to get 3rd place in the Tri-Valley Conference.



Brayton Hagge

Parents: Craig & Christy Hagge
Grade: 12th
School: Crofton High School
Why Nominated? Brayton is ranked at the top of her class. She has made learning a top priority. Brayton's positive attitude at determination is also apparent in her extra curricular activities. She is a member of National Honor's Society, Student Council, Cross Country, FFA, and Chorus.
Favorite Subject(s): English and Art
Favorite School Memory(s): Making a Women's Roles in Wars video with Abby Brown.



Chelsea Wentz

Parents: Doug and DelVonna Wentz
Grade: 12th
School: Freeman Academy
Favorite Subject(s): History and Math
Favorite School Memory(s): All of the fun times with my classmates.



Dillon Logue

Parents: Tim and Tina Jensen and Mark Logue.
Grade: 12th
School: Gayville-Volin School
Why Nominated? Dillon is a very bright young man. He continually works at a college level and succeeds at any task.
Favorite Subject(s): Math.

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