"Madam Speaker, I wish to thank President Obama for announcing new mileage standards which will reduce carbon emissions 30% by 2016 and reduce our dependence on foreign oil.

Another great Chicagoan Daniel Burnham once said, “Make no little plans, they have no magic to stir men’s blood.”

Well, now is the time for us to make big plans on behalf of generations we’ll never live to see.

Now is the time to broaden our attention span beyond the next election cycle.

Now is the time to think about those who can’t vote yet but will have to breath the air, drink the water and pay the debts we leave behind.

Now is the time to work together to make big plans on robust climate change based on verification, sustainability and renewable energy.

As we think about what to do with our time here in Congress, let me leave you with an Irish blessing:

May there be a generation of children, on the children of your children."