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No. 31

House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Florida).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
February 23, 2009.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ALCEE L. HASTINGS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

We praise You and we bless You Lord God for another day, another week, another opportunity to make a personal difference in this world, to serve the people of this Nation by serving in the 111th Congress, and give You glory in all our words and deeds.

We pray and work for social and financial security as this Nation and the entire world is faced with economic crisis.

Lord, stir creative thinking and greater collaboration in this Chamber that government may prove to be an agent of change and provide leadership in the world community.

By Your grace and power, turn this time of anxiety into an era of peace, where people become more disciplined and responsible themselves and more caring for their neighbors and the least fortunate in the world.

“Love conquers all.” This we believe, now and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the

last day’s proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FOXX led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 13, 2009.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on February 13, 2009, at 11:25 p.m.:

That the Senate agreed to the conference report accompanying the bill H.R. 1.

That the Senate passed S. 234.

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. Con. Res. 35.

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. Con. Res. 47.

Appointments:
Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki)
Senate National Security Working Group
With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bill was signed by the Speaker on Friday, February 13, 2009:

H.R. 1, making supplemental appropriations for job preservation and creation, infrastructure investment, energy efficiency and science, assistance to the unemployed, and State and local fiscal stabilization, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, and for other purposes.

BANKRUPTCY FIELD

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, ballparks across America are back in swing and only days until opening day at the taxpayers’ new park in New York, Citi Field. The average cost for a family of four to see a game is \$200. Wonder what the average cost for an office and executive secretary for former big shots at Citigroup in Manhattan costs? Well, it’s not peanuts.

According to news reports, our struggling friends at Citigroup have plenty enough to plaster their name on a new ballpark and keep high dollar offices and secretaries for ex CEOs. The coach at Citigroup is making cuts to the roster at every other position, but it seems the luxury suite won’t be traded.

Households across our country are prioritizing spending, doing without to make ends meet, and they’re not getting any bailout money from the Federal Government.

Citigroup is striking out when it comes to wise usage of taxpayer money. Citigroup should not spend taxpayer money on baseball parks and elaborate offices for former Citigroup players. If Citigroup goes broke, they shouldn’t be coming looking for more taxpayer money. If they go bankrupt,

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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H1609

we can call the new field in New York "Bankruptcy Field."

And that's just the way it is.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today there's a fiscal responsibility summit at the White House. I hope this summit will be the beginning of important decisions Congress is going to make in order to limit the rising cost of government.

It is disappointing that this summit came after Congress passed a \$1 trillion spending package last week that many of my colleagues and many Americans do not believe was the right way to stimulate our economy. Nevertheless, it is vital that we start anew and sincerely to make responsibility the foundation of governing.

We need reforms that protect the services and benefits promised to American families while not growing the burden of taxation, tragic inflation, or the long-term tide of wasteful spending. If we are truly dedicated to protecting and preserving services like Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security, then, indeed, we must reform them to keep them solvent.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th.

QUIT HIDING BEHIND THE SKIRTS OF MR. VAN HOLLEN

(Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to talk about a gutless move by the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. They are currently sending robo-calls into my district criticizing me for my vote on the stimulus package. Well, maybe that's fair game.

But last week I was home in the district and I accepted an invitation by a bipartisan group, the Public Policy Institute of California, to discuss the issue. Three Members of the other side of the aisle in my area were invited to be on that panel. They all declined, including one who had accepted and then declined when she found out I was going to be there.

You're messing with my children and my grandchildren's future. You're messing with my 91-year-old mother's current retirement.

Have the guts to appear on panels with Members of this side of the aisle, and quit hiding behind the skirts of Mr. VAN HOLLEN.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are advised that they should address their remarks to the Chair.

WASHINGTON WILL NOT FACE UP TO ITS RESPONSIBILITY

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, we have some young people here on the floor with us today, and they represent American families who are hurting and need relief. But, instead, Washington continues to engage in out-of-control spending.

There was the \$1 trillion "stimulus plan" that will only stimulate more government and more debt. We're about to deal with a half trillion dollar omnibus spending bill to fund the government for just 7 months, which is an 8 percent increase in spending. And then we have the \$75 billion for the President's mortgage bailout proposal. And then he's going to present to us a way to cut the deficit, which is going to be on the backs of our troops. He's going to cut spending for our troops.

We need to remind the American people that the number one role of the Federal Government is the defense of this Nation. And we need people to understand that we are putting these children, their children and their grandchildren into great debt because Washington will not face up to its responsibility.

HONORING LARRY H. MILLER

(Mr. CHAFFETZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, this week the people of Utah mourned the passing of a beloved community leader, entrepreneur and philanthropist. Larry H. Miller's life is an inspiration to all of us who care about families, our communities and our country.

Larry Miller was an extraordinary businessman, building more than 80 companies, including his auto business from one dealership in 1979 to 39 today. His business holdings expanded with the 1985 purchase of the Utah Jazz and later the Salt Lake Bees and the creation of the Miller Motorsports Park.

Perhaps more important than his business success was his charitable work, much of it unseen and anonymous. Through his Larry H. Miller Charities, Miller provided for thousands, funded campus sports facilities, and established a training center for entrepreneurs, as well as a facility for public safety training.

Larry H. Miller had a profound impact upon the State of Utah, and his works will continue to be a positive force in countless lives. I honor his accomplishments, his example, his philanthropy, and wish nothing but the best for his family, and hope they understand the deep gratitude Utah shares for a truly honorable man.

STIMULUS GIVES JOBS TO LAW-BREAKERS

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the so-called stimulus bill gives jobs to law-breakers.

Democrats put illegal workers ahead of Americans without jobs. They removed a requirement that employers verify the legal status of workers paid with stimulus money. So now we have taxpayers' dollars going to hire illegal immigrants instead of U.S. citizens and legal workers.

Now that the requirement that employers hire legal workers has been removed, 300,000 jobs in construction alone will go to illegal workers, according to the Heritage Foundation. If the goal of the stimulus bill is to create jobs, is it too much to ask that the jobs go to citizens and legal workers?

The American people need to know that the Democrats could have saved stimulus jobs for citizens but intentionally decided to give jobs to illegal immigrants instead.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

GUAM WORLD WAR II LOYALTY RECOGNITION ACT

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 44) to implement the recommendations of the Guam War Claims Review Commission.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 44

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Recognition of the suffering and loyalty of the residents of Guam.
- Sec. 3. Payments for Guam World War II claims.
- Sec. 4. Adjudication.
- Sec. 5. Grants program to memorialize the occupation of Guam during World War II.
- Sec. 6. Authorization of appropriations.

SEC. 2. RECOGNITION OF THE SUFFERING AND LOYALTY OF THE RESIDENTS OF GUAM.

(a) RECOGNITION OF THE SUFFERING OF THE RESIDENTS OF GUAM.—The United States recognizes that, as described by the Guam War