

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 36 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

Lord God, ever attentive to our deepest needs, answer the prayers of the Members of Congress and bring them closer and closer to You.

Lord, once You draw souls close to You, people desire to hold on to Your presence, and so they pray. Then to give flesh and blood to prayerful sentiments and words, they enter into the realm of self-denial.

Finally, personal sacrifice, Lord, never seems worthwhile until it benefits another. So there are these three practices: prayer, fasting, and acts of charity. The three are really one, giving life to each other as they bring us closer to You, O Lord.

Let living faith and faith-filled practice lead us to You both now and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BOSWELL) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BOSWELL 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.

COMMENDING PRESIDENT OBAMA FOR EXECUTIVE ORDER TO OVERTURN BAN ON FEDERAL FUNDING FOR EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH

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

Mr. BOSWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend President Obama for overturning former President Bush's ban on Federal funding for embryonic stem cell research.

Lifting this 8-year-old restriction provides hope for doctors, scientists, and those in my district, our State, our country, who have waited far too long

for research that may provide them with cures for diseases such as diabetes, Alzheimer's, multiple sclerosis, cancer, and others.

Just this weekend, I met with a young lady who I've grown to know very well, Karli Borcherding, who lives with juvenile diabetes and has done a great service to so many by sharing her story and educating countless Americans on this life-altering illness. Each time I meet with her, she reminds me of the hope that stem cell research holds for not just her, but children and young people like her who live with this disease.

Stem cell research has the potential to revolutionize the way patients are treated. We must utilize the best minds and the best science to find cures for people living with chronic diseases.

Our ability to utilize and encourage scientific and medical research has been put on hold too long. I am confident that President Obama will continue to work to enhance medical research and bring renewed hope to those who deserve access to the best medicine possible.

NUCLEAR ENERGY VITAL TO ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

(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, yesterday The Post and Courier of Charleston, South Carolina, editorialized the following: "President Obama's decision to abandon the national nuclear waste disposal site at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, is a breathtakingly irresponsible dismissal of a vital project on which billions have already been spent. It extends a security risk at dozens of temporary waste disposal sites around the Nation and threatens to cripple the future nuclear development needed to advance national energy independence."

The editorial continues to say, "For South Carolina, it raises the likelihood that vast quantities of nuclear waste at the Savannah River site will simply remain there indefinitely. Congress should repudiate the administration's decision."

That is sound advice. Nuclear energy is clean energy. It has provided my home State over 50 percent of our electrical power for over 30 years and will continue to be an important part of our Nation's energy infrastructure.

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

CONFIRMATION OF JOHN HOLDREN AND JANE LUBCHENCO

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

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, as the people today are talking about restoring

science and government to its rightful place, President Obama's nominees for Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy and Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration await confirmation. John Holdren and Jane Lubchenco are among the Nation's finest scientists, and we urgently need them at the forefront of our Nation's efforts to rebuild our economy with new discoveries and innovations, to transform our energy use with new technologies, and to manage our natural resources with enhanced understanding.

Today, I stood in the White House as the President talked about the new science policy; and later I stood in our Capitol dome, gazing up at the fresco of George Washington surrounded by the tools of our founders. My eyes were drawn to two scenes in particular, one named Oceans—or Marine—and the other Science. Our Nation's future prosperity is no less dependent upon a mastery of these fields today. I look forward to confirmation of my good friends, Dr. Lubchenco and Dr. Holdren, soon.

THE HUNGRY BEAST OF GOVERNMENT

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, if you tax something, you get less of it. In other words, when the almighty Federal Government swoops in and taxes someone or something, it stifles growth, production, and the incentive to work.

The number one producer of jobs in America is not the government, not large corporations, but small business. Most are owned by individuals, real people who hire other real people.

The new income tax hike is aimed right at these individuals, and the effect will be bad for jobs and the economy. It's the administration's way of punishing success. Small business owners have told me they aren't going to expand because they do not want to get in the higher tax bracket. Some have told me they're going to downsize to pay the new tax increase. That means, in simple terms, lay people off.

Why work hard and expand? The more you work, the higher percent of taxes taken from you by the hungry beast of government. No one should have their taxes raised during a recession, but the new economic recovery plan is: If it moves, regulate it; if it keeps moving, tax it; and if it stops moving, subsidize it.

And that's just the way it is.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ALTMIRE) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 6, 2009.

□ 1415

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 March 6, 2009, at 1:47 p.m.:

That the Senate passed H.J. Res. 38.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

NAPOLITANO IS WRONG TO INVESTIGATE THE INVESTIGATORS

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, recently Homeland Security agents in Washington State arrested an illegal immigrant gang member, discovered he worked at a manufacturing plant, then began to investigate the employer and arrested 28 illegal immigrants. Instead of praising their good work, though, Secretary Napolitano said she would investigate the investigators. Amazing.

Secretary Napolitano took the wrong side. She should stand up for U.S. citizens and legal immigrant workers, not the illegal immigrants who take their jobs. She should stand up for the law enforcement officers who are doing their jobs, not the special interests who favor amnesty.

It does not bode well for citizens and legal immigrant workers alike that when it comes to worksite enforcement, this administration is investigating the investigators instead of the law breakers.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the Speaker signed the following enrolled joint resolution on Friday, March 6, 2009:

H.J. Res. 38, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2009, and for other purposes.

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.

SENSE OF HOUSE REGARDING NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 210) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that providing breakfast in schools through the National School Breakfast Program has a positive impact on classroom performance.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 210

Whereas breakfast program participants under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 include public, private, elementary, middle, and high schools, as well as rural, suburban, and urban schools;

Whereas at least 16,000 schools that participate in the National School Lunch Program do not participate in the National School Breakfast Program;

Whereas in fiscal year 2008, 8,520,000 students in the United States consumed free or reduced-price school breakfasts provided under the national school breakfast program established by section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966;

Whereas less than half of the low-income students who participate in the National School Lunch Program also participate in the school breakfast program;

Whereas in fiscal year 2008, 60 percent of school lunches served, and 80 percent of school breakfasts served, were served to students who qualified for free or reduced priced meals;

Whereas the current economic situation, including the increase of nearly 3 percent in the national unemployment rate in 2008, is causing more families to struggle to feed their children and to turn to schools for assistance;

Whereas implementing or improving classroom breakfast programs have been shown to increase the participation of eligible students in breakfast consumption dramatically, doubling, and in some cases tripling, numbers, as evidenced by research in Minnesota, New York, and Wisconsin;

Whereas making breakfast widely available through different venues or a combination thereof, such as in the classroom, obtained as students exit their school bus, or outside the classroom, has been shown to lessen the stigma of receiving free or reduced-price breakfast, which often prevents eligible students from obtaining traditional breakfast in the cafeteria;

Whereas providing free universal breakfast, especially in the classroom, has been shown to significantly increase school breakfast participation rates and decrease absences and tardiness;

Whereas studies have shown that access to nutritious programs such as the National School Lunch Program and National School Breakfast Program helps to create a strong learning environment for children and helps to improve children's concentration in the classroom;

Whereas providing breakfast in the classroom has been shown in several instances to improve attentiveness and academic performance, while reducing tardiness and disciplinary referrals;

Whereas students who eat a complete breakfast have been shown to make fewer mistakes and work faster in math exercises than those who eat a partial breakfast;

Whereas studies suggest that eating breakfast closer to classroom and test-taking time improves student performance on standardized tests relative to students who skip breakfast;

Whereas studies show that students who skip breakfast are more likely to have difficulty distinguishing among similar images, show increased errors, and have slower memory recall;

Whereas children who live in families that experience hunger have been shown to be more likely to have lower math scores, face an increased likelihood of repeating a grade, and receive more special education services;

Whereas studies suggest that children who eat breakfast have more adequate nutrition and intake of nutrients, such as calcium, fiber, protein, and vitamins A, E, D, and B-6;

Whereas studies show that children who participate in school breakfast programs eat more fruits, drink more milk, and consume less saturated fat than those who do not eat breakfast;

Whereas children who fail to eat breakfast, whether in school or at home, are more likely to be overweight than children who eat a healthy breakfast on a daily basis; and

Whereas March 2 through March 6, 2009, is National School Breakfast Week: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the importance of the National School Breakfast Program and its overall positive effect on the lives of low-income children and families, as well as its effect on helping to improve a child's overall classroom performance;

(2) expresses support for States that have successfully implemented school breakfast programs in order to improve the test scores and grades of its participating students;

(3) encourages States to strengthen their school breakfast programs by improving access for students, to promote improvements in the nutritional quality of breakfasts served, and to inform students and parents of healthy nutritional and lifestyle choices;

(4) recognizes the need to provide States with resources to improve the availability of adequate and nutritious breakfasts;

(5) recognizes the impact of nonprofit and community organizations that work to increase awareness of, and access to, breakfast programs for low-income children; and

(6) recognizes that National School Breakfast Week helps draw attention to the need for, and success of, the National School Breakfast Program.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on H. Res. 210 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 210, a resolution expressing the sense of Congress that providing breakfast in school has a positive impact on classroom performance.