

House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning-hour debate, and further, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 9, 2009, for morning-hour debate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

PERMISSION TO FILE REPORT ON H.R. 2454, AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY AND SECURITY ACT

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Commerce may have until 11:59 p.m. on Friday, June 5, to file its report to accompany H.R. 2454.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

GENERAL MOTORS AND HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. DINGELL. We all know the terrible situation in the auto industry and in the Nation in general. On Monday, General Motors filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. I know that GM will emerge from the court poised to again lead the world in the automotive sector, but the process will be painful. The company will cut 21,000 employees, 34 percent of its workforce; and this does not include elimination of 2,600 more dealers. Furthermore, it comes on the heels of Chrysler's layoffs and downsizing.

Unfortunately, this problem is not at an end. A recent study for the Center for Automotive Research shows that when you include jobs losses from suppliers and other companies tied to GM and Chrysler, we could see 250,000 jobs, or more, lost over the next 19 months.

This week GM announced they are closing the Willow Run transmission plant in Ypsilanti Township, Michigan, in my district, along with 13 other plants, six of them in Michigan. By 2010, 1,110 more GM workers will lose their jobs in my district. This is associated with not just loss of jobs and retirement, but loss of comprehensive health care for our people. This becomes now a major reason for us to pass major health care reform and a greater reason to see to it that we address this problem of health care reform and legacy costs so that our industry will not be destroyed.

THE IMPORTANCE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY TO AMERICA

(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 listened with interest to the President as he spoke in Egypt today. There are a lot of things to talk about, but in 1 minute you can't talk about most of them.

Let me just make one comment. It was interesting that the President made a very pointed statement that the country of Iran deserves to have the opportunity to use nuclear power in a peaceful way. I find it very interesting that the President thought that that was a part of energy that he ought to emphasize overseas.

My question is this: When will the President, when will his administration, when will this House understand that energy produced from nuclear power is appropriate not only for Iran and other countries around the world, but for the 50 States in the Union? When will the President understand that nuclear energy is a source that we ought to look at? And as the President gives us his various plans under the climate change rhetoric, why does he not realize the importance of nuclear energy for his own people?

STOP E-VERIFY DELAYS AND PROTECT AMERICAN WORKERS

(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, 13 million Americans are out of work, but 8 million illegal immigrants hold jobs in the United States. Yet the Obama administration has just delayed for the third time a requirement that Federal contractors use E-Verify to make sure that they hire legal workers. U.S. citizens and legal immigrant workers should not have to compete with illegal immigrants for employment, especially taxpayer-funded Federal contract jobs. The Federal Government has several hundred billion dollars worth of contracts, each with good jobs that rightfully belong to American workers. E-Verify is the best tool to ensure job security for them. E-Verify works. It immediately confirms 99.6 percent of work-eligible employees. More than 127,000 companies now use E-Verify, and Federal contractors should be required to use it. The Obama administration should put American workers first. They must stop delaying the requirement that Federal contractors hire legal workers.

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HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, Republicans stand for health care reform, and there are a number of things that we think should be a part of it.

Number 1, we want good intelligence. We want high technology so that Americans can figure out what are the best procedures, who are the best doctors, who are the best providers, and what are the best prices. We think we should take advantage of all the IT that is out there.

Number 2, we want medical savings accounts. We believe that the market should be put into action so that people can save money and be incentivized to put some of that money in their pocket if they don't spend it by the end of the day.

Number 3, we don't believe that health care decisions should be made by insurance companies, HMOs or Washington bureaucrats.

Number 4, we believe there should be less frivolous lawsuits. We certainly want to protect the tort laws in America, but we don't want frivolous lawsuits.

Number 5, we believe the patient-doctor relationship should be preserved and that we should not have a British-, Canadian- or German-style centralized government planning where the doctor-patient relationship is destroyed.

WHY ARE AUTOMOBILE DEALERSHIPS BEING CLOSED?

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

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to express confusion and concern. For much of the week, I have tried to find an answer to the question about why automobile dealerships across the country are being closed. I thought maybe this week I would return to Washington, D.C., and find the solution, that someone would know and provide an explanation. I cannot understand how closing automobile dealerships, those who sell automobiles, is advantageous to the bottom line, the profit of General Motors or Chrysler. This can't be a market-based decision. There must be some political consideration that is ongoing to encourage these dealerships to be closed.

The closing of those dealerships is devastating to communities as well as the businesses that we are closing, and at the same time provide no economic improvement in the bottom line of our automobile manufacturers.

So, Mr. Speaker, I again ask those of my colleagues and those at the White House, the automobile task force, is it a political consideration that is occurring to encourage General Motors and Chrysler to disenfranchise their franchisees or is there some market-based decision on which this is based? And yet no one can provide that answer.

THE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE LACKS INFORMATION FROM THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

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

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I was listening to the colloquy this evening as we were talking about what next week might bring in terms of the business. And as the majority leader and the minority whip were going through the process, the question that was asked was: Is the intelligence committee or was the intelligence committee assumed to be moving forward on investigating the allegations that the Speaker has made that the CIA, over a long period of time, consistently lied to Congress?

I can inform the Members that now that process and that investigation is not going on because one of the things that has not happened is that the Speaker of the House has not outlined or directed the committee as to where she believes she was lied to over this period of time. And she has presented no evidence that backs up the claims that she has made.

If that information is provided to the committee as to the direction and to the evidence that this action actually took place by the CIA, I think the committee hopefully would be ready to move forward. But at this point in time, we wouldn't know what to take a look at, and we wouldn't know what direction to move in.

HONORING CARTERSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL FOR WINNING THE 2009 GHSA STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

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

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a very talented group of young men from Cartersville, Georgia, in District 11. This past weekend, the Cartersville High School Purple Hurricanes claimed the Class AAA Georgia High School Association State Baseball Championship. Success on the baseball diamond is nothing new for Cartersville High School, which has won back-to-back State titles and claimed five championships since 2001. However, this year's title was extra sweet, as the Canes rallied back from a 7-5 deficit in the third game of the championship series, defeating the Columbus Blue Devils, who were the third ranked high school team in the Nation. The final score was Cartersville 10, Columbus 7.

I ask that all my colleagues join me in recognizing Coach Stuart Chester and the Cartersville High School baseball team for their successful season as well as the hard work that got them there. And with a team that has made winning a tradition and brought home two straight State championships, the next question is: Can Cartersville make it a three-peat?

I feel sure that they can, Mr. Speaker.

NATIONAL CPR/AED AWARENESS WEEK

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as an emergency medical technician to express my support for the National CPR and AED Awareness Week.

Only 8 percent of sudden cardiac arrest victims survive. But with simple training, anyone can attempt to save the life of a sudden cardiac arrest victim with cardiopulmonary resuscitation and with automated external defibrillators. Prompt delivery of CPR more than doubles the chance of survival, and using AEDs helps save lives because they can restore normal heart rhythm.

The American Heart Association, the American Red Cross, and the National Safety Council are all promoting training and awareness this week. But this lifesaving training must extend throughout the year.

A bill we passed this week, the Josh Miller HEARTS Act, authorizes funding for schools to purchase AEDs and to train staff in CPR.

For 30 years, I have responded to such emergencies in rural Pennsylvania, and with H.R. 1380, our rural schools will be prepared to handle cardiac emergencies.

Please join me to celebrate National CPR and AED Awareness Week and learn to save a life.

FAREWELL TO PAGES

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the House Page Board, I would like to take this opportunity to express my personal gratitude to all the pages, some of whom we have here tonight, for all they have done to serve so diligently in the House of Representatives during the 110th and 111th Congresses.

I have attached a list of the fine young men who have served this House as pages, along with the young ladies, who when I first came here were not pages. You have seen the progress of this country also.

I have attached a list of the fine young people who have served this House as pages, and their names will be made part of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

We all recognize the important role that congressional pages play in helping the U.S. House of Representatives operate. These groups of young people, who come from all across our Nation, represent what is good about our country.

To become a page, Mr. Speaker, these young people have proven themselves to be academically qualified. They have ventured away from the security

of their homes and families to spend time in an unfamiliar city. Through this experience, they have witnessed a new culture, made new friends, and learned the details of how our government operates.

As we all know, the job of a congressional page is not an easy one. Along with being away from home, the pages must possess the maturity to balance competing demands for their time and their energy. In addition, they must have the dedication to work long hours and the ability to interact with people at a personal level. At the same time, they face a challenging academic schedule of classes in the House Page School.

You pages who are here tonight, and those who may be listening, have witnessed the House debate issues of war and peace, hunger and poverty, justice and civil rights. And between the 110th and the 111th Congress, you have seen the occupant of the White House change.

You have lived through history.

You have seen Congress at moments of greatness and you have seen Congress with its frailties. You have witnessed the workings of an institution that has endured well over 200 years.

No one has seen Congress and Members of Congress as close up as have you. I am sure that you will consider your time spent in Washington, D.C., to be one of the most valuable and exciting experiences of your lives, and that with this experience, you will all move ahead to lead successful and productive lives.

Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the House Page Board, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this group of distinguished young Americans. They certainly will be missed.

As I walk by the desk on both sides, I like to say hello to you. And I'm proud of you, and you have given the Page Board much to be proud of this year. You certainly will be missed.

And before yielding, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the members of the House Page Board who provide us such fantastic service to this institution:

Congressman ROB BISHOP, the vice Chair of the Page Board; Congresswoman DIANA DEGETTE; Congresswoman VIRGINIA FOXX; Clerk of the House, Lorraine Miller; Sergeant at Arms, Bill Livingood; Ms. Lynn Silver-smith Klein and Mr. Adam Jones. I want to thank them for their service on the House Page Board.

I thank you all, our departing pages.

And, Mr. Speaker, at this time, I yield my time to the vice Chair of the Page Board and my friend, Mr. BISHOP of Utah.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I thank my good friend from Michigan for yielding time.

It has been an enjoyable time being a part of the Page Board as part of the page process. To the pages who are here and the ones who are not here because you still have to do work in the