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House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,

July 13, 2009.

I hereby appoint the Honorable HENRY CUELLAR to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 30 minutes and each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, limited to 5 minutes.

VIOLENCE IN XINJIANG

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF) for 5 minutes.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great concern regarding the recent violence and loss of life in Xinjiang Uyghur autonomous region.

While much is still unknown about the events which transpired over the past week, due to the Chinese Government's strict control and monitoring of foreign journalists, the situation devolved into an explosion of anger between Han Chinese and Uyghur citizens.

President Hu and senior Chinese officials have vowed to severely punish in-

dividuals connected to the protests, including through the use of the death penalty.

The Chinese Government's longstanding persecution and repression of the Uyghur people is well documented, including by our own Department of State, as is the government's history of covering up abuses and reacting violently in the face of peaceful protests.

The Chinese Government must allow an independent, international investigation into the events surrounding the week's past violence. I have urged the State Department to work toward that end.

The Chinese Government has blamed the unrest on Nobel Peace Prize nominee and human rights activist Rebiya Kadeer. This is eerily reminiscent of the Chinese Government blaming last year's protests in Tibet on the Dalai Lama. Both the Dalai Lama and Rebiya Kadeer have been made scapegoats by the Chinese communist government, and both are champions for their people.

Rebiya Kadeer suffered in prison for 5 years before she was released to come to the United States. After her release, two of her sons were arrested and remain today languishing in jail for crimes they did not commit.

Amazingly, the reach of the Chinese Government does not stop at its borders. In 2006, Rebiya Kadeer called my office seeking assistance because she noticed a suspicious vehicle outside her home in northern Virginia. After checking with the FBI, we learned that the vehicle had been rented by individuals connected with the Chinese Government.

In a recent opinion piece she wrote for the Wall Street Journal, Rebiya Kadeer condemned the use of violence on both sides and called on the United States to speak out against oppression in China and monitor daily human rights abuses perpetrated by the Chinese Government.

Today, I sent a letter to President Obama asking that senior officials of the National Security Council and the State Department immediately meet with Ms. Kadeer to discuss the events in Xinjiang and the U.S. response.

President Obama is a father and Secretary Clinton is a mother, so they can understand well the anguish that Rebiya Kadeer feels as she considers the fate of her own children and grandchildren, particularly in light of this most recent violence and unrest.

Failure to meet with Rebiya Kadeer would be reminiscent of 1975 when famed Soviet dissident Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn visited Washington, D.C. and the city's foreign policy establishment sought to obstruct him at every turn. He was refused a meeting with President Ford, who declined to meet with him fearing it would sour an upcoming meeting with Soviet leader Brezhnev.

I sincerely hope this administration does not repeat this mistake.

WATCHING OUT FOR AMERICA'S JOB CREATORS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, today our Nation is suffering with tremendous economic problems, with unemployment reaching a 26-year high at 9.5 percent. Last month alone, our economy shed 467,000 jobs.

In December 2006, the U.S. had had 54 straight months of job growth, the longest in the history of this country. Democrats took over the Congress in January 2007, and our economy has been going downhill since then. Since January 2009 when President Obama became President and the Democrats continued to control Congress, things have really gone downhill.

Americans of all walks of life are hurting and cutting back as consumer

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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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spending slumps and more families find themselves with a breadwinner without work.

What we need to get us out of this slump are policies aimed at helping employers create jobs. When employers create jobs and start hiring, the unemployed can get back to work and rejoin the ranks of the workers that make our Nation great.

And what kind of policies encourage employers to create jobs? Policies that reduce the burden of government mandates and keep the tax man from dipping too deep into the pockets of those who create jobs: small business owners. What we are talking about is cutting back the jungle of red tape and keeping taxes low for the entrepreneurs who always lead the way to economic recovery.

In 1802, Thomas Jefferson put it this way: "If we can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people, under the pretense of taking care of them, they must become happy." He was voicing a common insight into the tendency of government to quickly put burdensome mandates on entrepreneurs and job-creating small businesses under the guise of lending a helping hand. Today we know this syndrome as big government.

Unfortunately for the real engines of job creation in America, the Ways and Means Committee Democrats floated a massive tax hike in the past few days that will fall squarely on small business owners and entrepreneurs. Sure, they will market their \$540 billion tax increase as "a surtax" on "the wealthy." And you can bet your last dollar that anyone who dares to question this tax will be called a defender of the wealthy.

How about defending the small businesses that will help pull us out of the recession? How about looking out for innovators and risk takers whose ideas and products create jobs and grow our economy. These are the people who will be shelling out for this new \$540 billion tax. And they are the very same people who could be hiring the unemployed and creating jobs if we just give them the breathing room they need instead of hiking their taxes one more time.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 40 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 by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

Lord God, Eternal Lawgiver, we bless and praise You. Your very laws of nature form a balance of power and an orderly pattern for the study of science.

The blessed people of this Nation are those who choose each day to be law-abiding citizens, in business, in matters of justice, and even in traffic. Freedom is found and served when obeying the law is seen as preserving the common good and choosing a higher good rather than self-interest.

Good laws not only embody standards of behavior and ideals for us, they also unite us in an orderly pattern of living together and become a common endeavor for each of us to model freedom and responsibility for the rest of the world.

Therefore, Lord, guide and protect the lawmakers of this Nation. Preserve them from all illusions tied to their hopes and free them from prejudice which blinds anyone from equal justice.

By Your Spirit, work in and through the Members of the House of Representatives, that seeing their good work, all may give You glory.

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 gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BOOZMAN 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:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, July 13, 2009.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, The Capitol,
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 July 13, 2009, at 9:14 a.m.:

That the Senate passed with an amendment, requests a conference with the House, and appoints conferees H.R. 2892.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

REPORT ON H.R. 3183, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

Mr. OBEY, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-203) on the bill (H.R. 3183) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1, rule XXI, all points of order are reserved on the bill.

HONORING ALLBRITTON COMMUNICATIONS FOR ITS GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS

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

Mr. BOOZMAN. I rise today to honor the Joe L. Allbritton family, the Allbritton Communications Company, and the Little Rock, Arkansas, ABC affiliate KATV for their generous contribution of an extensive video collection of historical events to the University of Arkansas.

Through a partnership formed between Allbritton Communications and KATV with the David and Barbara Pryor Center for Arkansas Oral and Visual History, KATV's video library, the largest in the State and one of the largest in the Nation, will be a treasure that all Americans can enjoy.

This Master Cassette Recording Library contains more than half a century of KATV news coverage, including more than 26,000 hours of Arkansas history collected over the past 50 years. The bulk of this video footage has never been made available to the public, and with the additional funds from this gift, the Pryor Center will be able to offer this footage online.

Arkansans and all Americans will be able to benefit from this great historical database that depicts the history of The Natural State.

CONGRESSIONAL "CREDIT CARD" REFORM

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

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, the Democrats on the House Ways and Means Committee announced their intention to finance a Washington takeover of health care by raising taxes. For those of you keeping score, the Democrats' economic plan has been to spend billions of new dollars on programs that generated no economic activity in a stimulus package, increase regular appropriations spending at a rate that is sure to increase inflation, implement a national