

to lose \$100 million in the first year. I have heard about States, like one Goodyear plant in Alabama where the State and local came together and offered \$51 million just to keep the people there and keep the plant open. This bill is going to cost them \$100 million, cost Caterpillar \$100 million. We are going to charge them \$100 million. Do you think companies are going to be able to stay long like that?

And I just want to finish up in my time tonight going back in history, just to remind people before this terrible vote tomorrow. Hopefully, the American people will prevail, people will lose their nerve to force this economy and the health care off a cliff, and then we can come back and we can work together. We can provide real solutions. We have got lots of good ideas. Just let us work together with you to do that, instead of having the President say, as he did at our retreat, I have read all your bills. You know, there is a thing or two. But I have read them. He had not read our bills. He has not read all our bills. We have got lots of things that could be considered.

But you go back to the founding of this country. In 1783, the Articles of Confederation didn't work. They were too loosely woven, no common currency, a lot of problems, so it was falling apart.

In 1787, we had the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia. They talked George Washington into coming back and presiding. He had done what no man had ever done in the history of the world before or since: he led a revolutionary military, won the Revolution, resigned, and went home. He said: I did what you asked.

Well, in 1787 they are telling him: if you don't come back and preside, the 13 States are not going to come back. We are done. The country is over. But all 13 States have agreed to come back if you will promise to preside over the Constitutional Convention.

□ 2320

I mean, what a testimonial for a man—a man of integrity—that he was so beloved. If he would come back, they would come back. They won't come back for anybody else. They knew he was a man who could walk away with power and never look back, because he had done it.

The Convention goes on in Philadelphia. They put blankets over the windows to keep people from looking in and people being distracted looking out, and there was bickering and arguing. It went on and on for nearly 5 weeks. At that point, Benjamin Franklin was 80 years old. He was a little over 2 years away from meeting his Maker, meeting his Judge, meeting his Creator.

Yes, he had sowed some wild oats in his life, and some people thought he was a deist. That's someone who believes God created things or something happened to create things and then that being has stepped back and never

done anything, basically. Well, what some people call a deist today was recognized. He knew he was a couple years more away from meeting his Maker.

Witty and brilliant as ever, he stood up and said these words—well, he started by saying, We've been meeting for nearly 5 weeks. We've accomplished basically nothing. We have more noses than eyes on these votes. Then I want to use his exact words taken down by James Madison. "In this situation of this Assembly, groping as it were in the dark to find political truth, and scarce able to distinguish it when presented to us, how has it happened, sir, that we have not once hitherto thought of humbly applying to the Father of lights to illuminate understanding? In the beginning contest with Great Britain, when we were sensible of danger, we had daily prayer in this room for the divine protection. Our prayers, sir, were heard, and they were graciously answered."

Benjamin Franklin went on. He said, "All of us who were engaged in the struggle must have observed frequent instances of a superintending providence in our favor. To that kind of providence we owe this happy opportunity of consulting in peace on the means of establishing our future national felicity. And have we now forgotten that powerful friend? Or do we imagine that we no longer need his assistance?"

Ben Franklin then went on and said, "I have lived, sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth—that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid? We have been assured, sir, in the sacred writing, that 'except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it.' Firmly believe this; and I also believe that without his concurring aid we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel.

"We shall be divided by our little partial local interest; our projects will be confounded, and we ourselves shall become a reproach and by word down to future ages. And what is worse, mankind may hereafter from this unfortunate instance, despair of establishing governments by human wisdom and leave it to chance, war and conquest.

"I therefore beg leave to move, that henceforth prayers imploring the assistance of Heaven, and its blessings on our deliberations, be held in the assembly every morning before we proceed to business."

After that, seconded by Mr. Sherman, it was unanimously adopted, and, from then to today, we have prayer to begin our sessions in here. But, oh, if we could ever come back together as a group and, as the very first Congress did, join and pray together as they did on their knees and come together. As one wrote to his wife, It was such a moving, powerful prayer time, even the surly old Quakers had tears in their eyes.

This is an important time. I thank God for those who have come and made their voices known this weekend. I thank God for the blessings with which we have been enriched, and I hope that people across America will pray to that same God Ben Franklin referred to and that he will move in the hearts of people in Congress that they will do the thing that will bring us together and create a stronger Nation that can survive for another 200 years.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 26 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 0012

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CARDOZA) at 12 o'clock and 12 minutes a.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 3590, SERVICE MEMBERS HOME OWNERSHIP TAX ACT OF 2009, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4872, HEALTH CARE AND EDUCATION RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2010

Mr. POLIS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-448) on the resolution (H. Res. 1203) providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 3590) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the first-time homebuyers credit in the case of members of the Armed Forces and certain other Federal employees, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4872) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 202 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. LATOURETTE (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of personal reasons.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. HIMES) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. HIMES, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. POE of Texas) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DUNCAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GOODLATTE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CASSIDY, for 5 minutes, today and March 21.

Mr. MCCOTTER, for 5 minutes, March 21.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. RYAN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BURGESS, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 14 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until today, Sunday, March 21, 2010, at 1 p.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

6694. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to Australia pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

6695. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's report describing the progress made in licensing and constructing the Alaska natural gas pipeline and describing any issue impeding that progress; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6696. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting correspondence from Mr. Chea Mony of the Free Trade Union Workers in the Kingdom of Cambodia; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6697. A letter from the Inspector General-Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period April 1, 2009 to September 30, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6698. A letter from the Assistant Director, Executive & Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6699. A letter from the Assistant Director, Executive & Political Personnel, Depart-

ment of Defense, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6700. A letter from the Human Resources Specialist, Department of Labor, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6701. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6702. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6703. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6704. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6705. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6706. A letter from the Assistant Director, Executive & Political Personnel, Department of the Army, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6707. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting a legislative proposal relating to the implementation of treaties concerning maritime terrorism and the maritime transportation of weapons of mass destruction; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6708. A letter from the Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's decision not to appeal the decision of the district court in the case of Al Haramain Islamic Foundation v. U.S. Dep't of Treasury (D. Ore); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6709. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's Fourth Quarter Report for 2009 on Settlements by the United States with Nonmonetary Relief Exceeding Three Years and Settlements Against the United States Exceeding \$2 Million, pursuant to Public Law 107-273, section 202(a)(1)(c); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6710. A letter from the Board of Trustees, National Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting the Trust's annual management report on its operations and financial condition, pursuant to (115 Stat. 886); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6711. A letter from the Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting the Administration's statement of actions with respect to the Government Accountability Office report GAO-10-9; to the Committee on Science and Technology.

6712. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Interior, transmitting a letter providing additional information on a proposal to implement the settlement of Cobell v. Salazar; jointly to the Committees on Appropriations and Natural Resources.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

[Filed on March 21 (legislative day of March 20), 2010]

Ms. SLAUGHTER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 1203. Resolution providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 3590) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the first-time homebuyers credit in the case of members of the Armed Forces and certain other Federal employees, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4872) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 202 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010 (Rept. 111-448). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. BUYER (for himself, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. FORBES, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. WOLF, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. PENCE, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. CULBERSON, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. COBLE, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. BILBRAY):

H.R. 4894. A bill to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to ensure appropriate treatment of Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense health programs; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia:

H.R. 4895. A bill to amend section 1004 of title 39, United States Code, to include that it is a policy of the Postal Service to ensure reasonable and sustainable workloads and schedules for supervisory and management employees and to clarify provisions relating to consultation and changes or terminations in certain proposals; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. MACK, Mr. PENCE, Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. AKIN):

H.R. 4896. A bill to authorize the President to utilize the Proliferation Security Initiative and all other measures for the purpose of interdicting the import into or export from Iran by the Government of Iran or any other country, entity, or person of all items, materials, equipment, goods and technology useful for any nuclear, biological, chemical, missile, or conventional arms program; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.