

which we can stand together and achieve lasting security; and as a Nation, give You glory both 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 gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GUTIERREZ) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GUTIERREZ 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.

BP: BANNED PERMANENTLY

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

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, the initials BP used to stand for British Petroleum. But now it stands for Burying People—or Burying Precious natural resources—under a vast sea of oil. But here's what BP, a serial abuser of our safety, our environment, and our legal system, should really stand for. BP: Banned Permanently.

Today, I ask my colleagues to end any and all Federal oil drilling leases for BP and begin an immediate civil and criminal investigation to examine the existing leases under BP. Almost a month into one of the worst manmade environmental and economic disasters, BP has worked harder to minimize public understanding than to minimize destruction to the Gulf of Mexico. There's plenty of finger-pointing from BP, their \$62 billion in profits, and their multimillion-dollar team of lobbyists. What BP should hear from us, the American people, is simple: BP stands for Banned Permanently.

I urge my colleagues to join me in demanding that Interior Secretary Salazar tell "Banned Permanently" they've made their last dollar from the American people.

COURAGEOUS NFIB LAWSUIT

(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, I applaud the National Federation of Independent Business, better known as NFIB, for standing up for small businesses in the State of South Carolina, like OCS Doors of Beaufort, led by Jay Halloway, and the Sunset Grill of West Columbia, established by

Betty Jackson. Employees at small businesses like these all across America are concerned about the impact of the job-killing mandates of the government health care takeover. The NFIB estimates the takeover will kill 1.6 million jobs. The NFIB stood up for small business employees last week when they joined 20 States, including South Carolina, in a lawsuit to overturn this government monstrosity. There are health care alternatives that Congress should consider, like the SWAP Act, which continues to cover preexisting conditions but will repeal the tax hikes and unaffordable mandates on individuals and small business owners.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

GULF OIL SPILL

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, nearly 1 month after the Deepwater Horizon oil spill began on April 20, oil continues to flow from the well, poisoning and destroying our water environment. The rig activities were considered to be a low-risk drilling exploration. Such a classification sends chills up my spine, given the countless riskier drilling ventures occurring along the coasts of our great Nation.

While millions of Americans watch the news and see the destruction of the gulf coast, the environment, and the economy of that area, I think of the thoughtless, baseless, cavalier Republican energy chant, "Drill Baby Drill." It echoes in the ears of the American public and anybody who cares about the gulf coast of the United States. "Drill Baby Drill" was a simplistic response.

We use 25.9 percent of the world's oil. We have 2.2 percent of the world's energy reserves. You don't have to be a math scholar or a Nobel Prize winner to know that won't work. You need to find alternative forms of energy. Use America's great research and brainpower. Harness solar. Harness the wind. Find new ways to help us with our problems with energy and not depend on fossil fuels, not ruin our environment, and not risk the flora and the fauna.

Mr. Speaker, we have to find a new direction to be like America has been in the past: innovative and creative.

CONFRONTING WASHINGTON'S OUT-OF-CONTROL SPENDING

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, we learned last week that the Federal Government ran up an \$82.7 billion deficit in April. That's the largest April deficit in our Nation's history. The Federal Govern-

ment is spending Americans' tax dollars at a record clip, so it's no surprise we're facing this mountain of debt.

But we can fix this problem. House Republicans have engaged the American people with an innovative online tool called YouCut. It's simple. Each week, we're giving Americans an opportunity to vote on a slate of wasteful, outdated, or duplicative Federal programs to cut from the budget. The top vote-getter will be offered up by Republicans for a vote in the House.

So far, hundreds of thousands of concerned citizens from across the country have voted on the YouCut Web site and made it clear they're tired of Washington's one-track spending mentality. YouCut is a first step toward changing the culture of always spending and never saving here in Washington. By itself, it won't solve the problem. But it is engaging our constituents in an important, larger discussion about reining in our skyrocketing debt and out-of-control spending.

MEXICAN MILITARY HELICOPTER INCURSIONS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, U.S. Border Patrol agents have spotted yet another Mexican military helicopter incursion into Texas. That makes three times these helicopters have crossed the border into America this year, that we know of. On Saturday, another Mexican military helicopter was in Texas, hovering near the Roma-Miguel Aleman International Bridge. Two other times this year, Mexican helicopters were photographed in Starr and Zapata Counties in Texas.

These military incursions are becoming routine. What are they doing here? We don't know. Has our government protested this violation of international law? No one is talking. Our own government seems to be blissfully silent about these incursions. That's why I'm asking Homeland Security Secretary Napolitano for some answers.

The Federal Government is MIA on our borders. Our government ought to spend less time protesting States like Arizona, trying to protect their citizens from border violence, and start getting some answers from Mexico about their military helicopters flying into the United States.

And that's just the way it is.

PUTTING AMERICANS FIRST

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, on the Joe Scarborough Show, Richard Haass, Chairman of the Council on Foreign Relations, said China had been investing in its economy over the last 10 years while we have been investing in Iraq and Afghanistan. Mr.

Haass proudly described himself as an elitist. Well, it is elitists like him and the organization he heads who helped lead to the rush to an unnecessary war in Iraq, and continues to push military and civilian spending in Iraq and Afghanistan that we simply cannot afford. These people apparently are not happy unless we are spending hundreds of billions in other countries.

Mr. Haass seemingly did not feel guilty at all when he said China had invested in its economy while we have blown a couple of trillion dollars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Well, it's long past time for us to bring our troops and contractors home and start investing in our own economy. And it is time for us to start putting Americans first and stop spending so much money and sending so many jobs to other countries.

NO WORD FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ON THE GULF COAST OIL SPILL

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, last week, our committee on Energy and Commerce, the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, held the first of what is likely to be many hearings into the events going on in the Gulf of Mexico. So far, the hearings and investigation have been decidedly "asymmetric." My committee demanded and obtained thousands of pages of documents and testimony from the four companies involved in the spill, but virtually nothing—nothing—from the administration. In fact, my committee made no document requests and asked for no testimony from the administration.

The Federal role would appear to be an integral part of this story. We should have representatives from the Department of Interior and the Minerals Management Service explain why in March of 2009, in the Initial Exploration Plans for Deepwater Horizon, a blowout scenario was simply not contemplated, and why the Department of Interior did not require a site-specific oil spill response plan.

We've had no word from the Federal Government and related agencies. When will the administration begin to work with Congress, rather than against Congress and against the American people?

NETWORKS SHOW DOUBLE STANDARD ON SUPREME COURT NOMINEE

(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, when former President George W. Bush nominated John Roberts and Samuel Alito for the Supreme Court, the tele-

vision networks repeatedly described them as "conservative," and used terms such as "bedrock conservative," "staunch conservative," and "ultra-conservative." In contrast, the networks rarely label President Obama's Supreme Court nominee, Elena Kagan, as "liberal," according to an analysis by the Media Research Center. In fact, the networks called Justice Alito "conservative" 10 times more often than they called Judge Kagan "liberal" after their respective nominations, according to the MRC.

Perhaps that's no surprise, considering the networks' own political philosophy. These are the same networks who called Candidate Obama moderate, even though he had the most liberal voting record in the entire U.S. Senate. The networks should give Americans the facts about Supreme Court nominees, not practice double standards.

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, May 17, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, U.S. 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 May 17, 2010 at 12:16 p.m.:

That the Senate passed with amendments H.R. 2711.

Appointments:
With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER.

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 incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

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

□ 1415

ENDANGERED FISH RECOVERY PROGRAMS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2010

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2288) to amend Public Law 106-392 to maintain annual base funding for the Upper Colorado and San Juan fish recovery programs through fiscal year 2023, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2288

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Improvement Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF FISH RECOVERY PROGRAMS.

Section 3(d)(2) of Public Law 106-392 (114 Stat. 1604 and 1605) is amended by inserting at the end the following: "For fiscal years 2012 through 2023, there are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to provide for the annual base funding for the Recovery Implementation Programs above and beyond the continued use of power revenues to fund the operation and maintenance of capital projects and monitoring.".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO) and the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2288, introduced by our colleague Representative JOHN SALAZAR from Colorado and seven other colleagues, would amend Public Law 106-392 to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2012 to 2023 to fund fish recovery programs in the Upper Colorado and the San Juan River Basins.

H.R. 2288 will help ensure the continued delivery of water from Federal water projects to irrigators and municipal and industrial contractors throughout the Upper Colorado River Basin through fiscal year 2023. More than 1,500 water projects will continue to have certainty to move forward, based on the support and commitments generated through these recovery programs.

These recovery programs are nationally recognized examples of diverse stakeholders coming together to collaboratively find solutions without litigation that allow everyone to use the river systems to promote economic growth while supporting compliance with the Endangered Species Act and the recovery of native fish species within the Colorado River Basin.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support the passage of H.R. 2288, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

This measure offers yet another example of how the Endangered Species Act has put a gun to the head of the West. The unreasonable effect of this