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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 29, 2010.

I hereby appoint the Honorable LORETTA SANCHEZ to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Reverend Bruce R. Scott, Pentecostals of South Lake, Merrillville, Indiana, offered the following prayer:

Loving Lord, Creator of everything, thank You for allowing us to come into Your presence. It is written in Your Word, if we would acknowledge You in all our ways, You will direct our steps. Thank You for the House of Representatives. I ask You to direct their steps today. Grant to them wisdom and understanding. Let them make right decisions based on biblical principles.

Lord, just as You paid a price for our salvation on Calvary, there is a price being paid today for this great Nation and our freedom. I ask You to be with our military personnel all over this world. Protect those in harm's way. Be with the family members at home; strengthen and encourage every spouse and child as they wait for the return of their loved one.

Bless our President and all the Members of Congress with wisdom and protection today. Surround our Nation with Your presence.

This I ask in the name above every name, in Jesus' name. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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 pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN 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.

WELCOMING REVEREND BRUCE R. SCOTT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Indiana, Congressman VISCLOSKY, is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. It is my honor to welcome to the Chamber Reverend Randy Scott, who led us in the opening prayer.

Reverend Scott has dedicated his life to the service of his community and fellow citizens in northwest Indiana. Before joining the church, Randy spent 37 years of his life as a member of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Local 374, in Hammond, Indiana.

After his retirement, Reverend Scott was touched by the Holy Spirit and realized that his life was destined for a higher purpose. He put his life in the hands of the Lord, who directed him to become a shepherd of His flock. Twenty-four years ago, Reverend Scott began ministering with the United Pentecostal Church International. Reverend Scott became the assistant pas-

tor at the Pentecostals of South Lake Church in Merrillville, Indiana, where he has effectively ministered to the congregation for the past 20 years, enriching all those who pass through the doors. Reverend Scott has also dedicated himself to the Merrillville Clergy Association, where he has served as president for the past 3 years.

Reverend Scott is joined here today with his wife, Connie, and his daughter, Lydia.

It is my honor to welcome a man who encompasses so many of the wonderful qualities and experiences of the people of northwest Indiana, and I would like to personally thank Reverend Scott for offering this morning's prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will now entertain up to 10 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN HIKERS BEING DETAINED IN IRAN

(Ms. SCHWARTZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHWARTZ. This week marks the 1-year anniversary of three American hikers being detained in Iran. Joshua Fattal, Shane Bauer, and Sarah Shourd were visiting a mountainous region in northern Iraq and innocently strayed across the unmarked frontier into Iran. The Iranian Government locked them up, accusing them of espionage—a baseless accusation.

Last fall, Senator ARLEN SPECTER and I championed a resolution calling on Iran to release the hikers. I have met with all three mothers and stayed in touch with Josh's mother, Laura, who lives in Montgomery County,

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

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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Pennsylvania. This Saturday the families of the hikers will gather at the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia to hold vigil for Josh, Shane, and Sarah.

I am deeply taken by the steadfast determination and spirit of the families as they advocate for their children's health, safety, and release. The hikers have been detained far too long, and Iran should demonstrate compassion and release them back to their families here in the United States.

I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging and sympathizing with these three young Americans and their families and calling on the Government of Iran to release them now.

HONORING CESAR ALVAREZ, RECIPIENT OF THE NATIONAL SCOPUS AWARD

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Cesar Alvarez, a world-class lawyer and a pillar of our south Florida community.

This fall, the American Friends of The Hebrew University is bestowing upon Cesar its highest honor, the National Scopus Award. Named for the mountain upon which the university is built, the Scopus Award honors those who are true humanitarians.

Cesar has always shown impeccable leadership in both his professional and charitable endeavors, and his reputation for excellence is widely known. Through his law firm and so many charitable organizations, Cesar has had a significant and positive impact upon south Florida. For many years, Cesar has worked to forge alliances between our local Jewish and Cuban American communities. So it's particularly befitting that these two communities have come together to honor him.

Cesar, congratulations on this most recent of many recognitions. Your hard work and leadership are truly worth honoring and emulating.

WATER SUPPLY CHALLENGES IN THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

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

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, as we return to our districts with the August recess, I want to call attention to the ongoing water supply challenges facing the San Joaquin Valley that I represent.

This year, we pushed the administration to use all the flexibility and power within the law to increase pumping to move water to our valley. We pushed to find additional water supplies that were not previously available at contract rates, and we were able to increase the water allocation for farmers in our valley significantly. We also pushed to bring critical water infra-

structure projects, like the Intertie that we will have groundbreaking next month.

Our efforts have produced more than four times the amount of water we received last year, but our fight for water, for valley jobs, and for our economy is far from over. Unemployment is still unacceptable. This administration and Congress must continue to step up its support for the San Joaquin Valley, as farmers and farm communities need a sustainable water supply to grow the country's fresh fruits and vegetables, our Nation's food supply.

That is why it is more important than ever in the next water year for Federal and State agency leaders to use every tool in their water toolbox to ensure that water flows. That means we must work together with our local water agencies.

□ 1010

WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED IN 2065 YEARS?

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, everybody outside of Washington, DC, understands government spending is out of control.

For those inside the Beltway who don't get it, the Congressional Budget Office put out a report that explains it loud and clear. The report says, "Deficits will cause debt to rise to unsupportable levels."

That's right, unsupportable levels. Every family struggling right now that tries to make ends meet understands that you can't spend more than you make.

In 55 B.C. the Roman statesman and philosopher Cicero supposedly warned Rome before it crashed and burned: "The budget should be balanced, the Treasury should be refilled, public debt should be reduced, and the arrogance of officialdom should be tempered and controlled, and the assistance to foreign lands should be curtailed, lest Rome become bankrupt. People must again learn to work, instead of living on public assistance."

So what have we learned in 2065 years since Cicero first said these words? Apparently government-gone-wild big spenders haven't learned a thing.

And that's just the way it is.

9/11 HEALTH AND COMPENSATION

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

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, today we consider the 9/11 Health and Compensation Act.

In my district, John Sferazo is counting on us to pass this bill. John was at Ground Zero clearing rubble and removing debris. Today his breathing is labored and his health is precarious.

There are tens of thousands of John Sferazos in this country: 13,000 who are ill; 53,000 whose health is being monitored; 71,000 who were exposed to poisonous toxins. This bill ensures a network of health care providers and monitoring.

Now some are saying, let's wait, let's debate more let's slow down. When the towers fell, John Sferazo did not say let's wait, let's debate, let's slow down. The responders put aside their lives and health for us, and we should put aside our politics for them.

We are bringing this bill to the floor under the same expedited consideration that we use to name post offices. Certainly John Sferazo and tens of thousands of 9/11 responders are worth at least as much expeditious consideration as we use to name post offices.

MEDIA SHOULD GIVE FACTS ON IMMIGRATION LAW

(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. Madam Speaker, yesterday a Federal judge sided with the Obama administration against Arizona's immigration enforcement law.

The ruling will be seen by Arizonans and the vast majority of Americans who support the law as just another example of this administration's failure to deal with illegal immigration and border security.

Like the administration, the national media has shown a clear bias against the Arizona law. Network evening news coverage has been slanted against the Arizona law by a margin of 10-1, according to an analysis by the Media Research Center. Only one in six stories mentioned public opinion polls showing that Americans support the law.

The national media should give Americans the facts about Arizona's immigration enforcement law, not provide cover for the administration's failure to secure the border.

9/11 HEALTH AND COMPENSATION

(Mr. BISHOP of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support for the 9/11 Health and Compensation Act, which we will be considering later this morning. Consideration of this legislation is long overdue. Thousands of brave Americans are suffering from debilitating illnesses after being exposed to harmful toxins released by the debris of the World Trade Center.

The bill before us provides necessary medical monitoring and treatment to World Trade Center first responders, and those who worked or lived in downtown Manhattan on September 11. It also reopens the 9/11 Victim Compensation Fund to compensate those affected.