House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC.
September 22, 2010.

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

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Reverend Douglas Fisher, Grace Episcopal Church, Millbrook, New York, offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, these elected leaders of our Nation gather together today in anticipation of Your guidance. They want to do what is right and good and holy. They want to be an inspiration to Your people in a trying time. Fill them with Your creative, dynamic Spirit.

Outside these walls Your people—among them immigrants, the unemployed, the brave men and women of our Armed Forces—live in hope of wise decisions from this body. Indeed, Your whole creation itself is profoundly affected in so many ways by what happens here. Compassionate God, enlighten us, show us Your will, and give us the courage to fulfill it.

At the end of this day, may the United States of America be closer to being a light unto the nations, a beacon of hope in this world. Living God, we ask Your blessing upon this House and upon this Nation. 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 Tennessee (Mr. WAMP) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WAMP 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 DOUGLAS FISHER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from New York (Mr. MURPHY) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. MURPHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and thank Father Doug Fisher from Millbrook, New York, for serving as the guest chaplain today for the House of Representatives.

For over 10 years, Father Doug has served as the rector of Grace Episcopal Church, which is located in the 20th District in Millbrook, New York. Previously, he served as the Episcopal Chaplain at the United States Military Academy at West Point, and he continues to correspond with many of the graduates who are serving their country throughout the world.

Father Doug has been a leader for our community in difficult times, serving on the board of directors of Rural and Migrant Ministry. Grace Church is known throughout Dutchess County for its many outreach programs, including its food pantries, service and support groups for the unemployed and underemployed, its AA groups, its nursery school. He has brought together people of diverse socioeconomic, cultural, racial, and religious backgrounds to promote dialogue, social justice, and hope.

On behalf of the 20th Congressional District and my colleagues in this House, I thank Father Doug for his work on behalf of our community and for his invocation here today.

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, September 16, 2010.
Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, 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 September 16, 2010 at 4:39 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 6102.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER.

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,
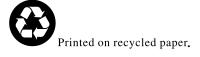*Washington, DC, September 21, 2010.*
Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

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 September 21, 2010 at 2:40 p.m.:

□ 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.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4505.

That the Senate passed S. 624.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

ON THE SELECTION OF THE STATE OF HAWAII AS A RECIPIENT OF THE FREEDOM AWARD FOR ITS OUTSTANDING SUPPORT OF MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE

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

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, every year the Secretary of Defense recognizes employers for their support of employees serving in the National Guard and Reserve. This year, the Government of the State of Hawaii was selected for the Freedom Award, the highest employer recognition award given by the Defense Department. Hawaii Army National Guardsman K. Mark Takai submitted the nomination.

The State of Hawaii provides credit toward retirement for the time their Guard and Reserve employees are activated and offers preferential hiring for those who have been deployed. The State also held a farewell ceremony and a welcome home parade for our 29th Brigade. Notably, Hawaii is the only State to recognize its fallen war heroes by awarding them the State Medal of Honor.

As we celebrate National Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Week, warmest ''aloha'' goes out to employers like the State of Hawaii for recognizing the unique challenges that members of the Guard and Reserve face in balancing their civilian lives with their military service.

MAKING THE 1099 SITUATION WORSE

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, throughout the month of August, I met with small business owners in my district who are anxious about the coming 1099 reporting requirements created by ObamaCare. They see a mountain of tax paperwork in their future, a mountain that will increase their accounting costs and prevent them from growing their businesses.

The 1099 reporting requirement has nothing to do with improving health care in this Nation. It was only included as another revenue raiser to pay for a massive new government health care entitlement program that the American people don't want.

H.R. 5297, the small business bill the House will take up tomorrow, makes a bad situation even worse. Instead of repealing this burdensome requirement, the bill actually increases penalties and expands the number of transactions subject then to 1099 reporting requirements. The Congressional Budget Office estimates this proposal will raise over $2.5 billion. That's $2.5 billion that will go to the government instead of job creators.

How long will it take our friends on the other side to figure out you can't increase the burden on our Nation's small businesses and then expect them to hire more Americans?

□ 1410

HONORING JOHN ELKINGTON

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

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the induction of John Elkington of Memphis, Tennessee, into the Beale Street Brass Note Walk of Fame. The Walk of Fame recognizes the accomplishments of nearly 100 individuals and groups who have had a significant influence on American music, particularly blues music.

As a developer with an extraordinary vision, Elkington revitalized a two-block section of historic Beale Street that had fallen into disrepair during the urban renewal of the 1970s. When Elkington started the project, only one business remained open. Where others failed, Elkington redeveloped Beale Street, turning it into one of America's premier entertainment districts. From the handful of night clubs and restaurants that opened in the early 1980s, the Beale Street Historic District has blossomed into a place where fans from around the world come to hear America's original art form, the blues.

John Elkington possesses a rare combination of perseverance and optimism. His love for Memphis is unrivaled, and he is indeed one of Tennessee's most important developers. After 27 years of hard work and dedication to Beale Street, John Elkington deserves a recognition of inclusion into the Beale Street Brass Note Walk of Fame.

Congratulations, Elk.

TAX CUTS

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

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, it did not take a lot of courage for the Republican leader in the Senate to announce his tax cut plan last week, which would cost about $4 trillion. Handing out tax cuts is not a tough business.

Oddly enough, while he ensured that those households with incomes of more than $1 million would get a tax cut of $104,000 next year, he forgot about the households of working poor people who count on the earned income tax credit and the child tax credit.

Why? Because the GOP plan extends the estate tax cuts but doesn't extend improvements to the tax credits for low-income working families, which the Congress passed last year. In Massachusetts alone, 210,000 families will lose some or all of the child credit under the Republican plan and 167,000 Massachusetts families will lose all or some of the earned income tax credit.

I urge our Republican friends here to reject this plan from their Senate leader and to stand up for working families.

OBAMA-NOMICS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the proposed administration tax hikes are the largest tax increases in American history. The government spends money that we don't have; 42 cents of every dollar spent is borrowed money.

Now the plan is to hike taxes sky high and how is that going to create those jobs? It has been said ''you can't legislate the poor into freedom by legislating the wealthy out of freedom. When the government gives money to one person, the government first has to take that money from somebody else.''

''When half the people get the idea that they do not have to work because they think the other half is going to take care of them, and when the working people get the idea it does no good to work because the government is going to take away what they worked for, that discourages all citizens to work.''

Obama-nomics is the failed philosophy of more government, more spending, more borrowing and more taxes; and it's a failed philosophy.

And that's just the way it is.

ECONOMIC POLICIES

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, the President was on television this week defending his economic policies talking about the progress, and I am going to admit that after yesterday we are about halfway back to where this administration needs to be in putting Americans and America back to work.

Yesterday—congratulations are in order—Larry Summers was either fired or encouraged to leave. It doesn't matter, he's gone.

It's about a year since I asked the President to fire Geithner and Summers, two people of, by, and for Wall Street. Wall Street has received enough attention, and the Republicans would shower even more attention on Wall Street, should they take over