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No. 43

House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

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

Cherry blossoms draw thousands of visitors to the Capitol city, Lord. Their silent beauty causes busy residents to stop their frenzied motion and simply gaze for a moment. Reflected in pools or clustered together on lawns, wrinkled with age, their new life displays a unified motion of gentle friendship.

Today, in our prayer, Lord, we offer voice to their song of spring and praise You and bless You for this momentary revelation of Your unique mystery and the blessing upon this Nation. Lord, this powerful gift of the Japanese people invites us to pray for our friends in their hour of need and suffering. Spring's fragile beauty will not be manipulated or contained for very long. In and through this passing glimpse of glory, the truth of Your promise is revealed. So, we learn the importance of Your timing and the art of subtle cohesion in natural forces.

Lord, grant us patience that You will have Your way with us now and always.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BURGESS 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 (Mr. POE of Texas) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 17, 2011.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. 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 March 17, 2011 at 6:52 p.m.:

That the Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 30.
With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

ROBERT F. REEVES,
Deputy Clerk.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable NANCY PELOSI, Democratic Leader:

MARCH 16, 2011.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to clause 5(a)(4)(A) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, I designate the following Members to be available to serve on investigative subcommittees of the Committee on Ethics during the 112th Congress:

Zoe Lofgren of California
Ben Chandler of Kentucky
John P. Sarbanes of Maryland
Terri A. Sewell of Alabama
Paul Tonko of New York
Ben Ray Lujan of New Mexico
David N. Cicilline of Rhode Island
William R. Keating of Massachusetts
Adam B. Schiff of California

Yvette D. Clarke of New York
Best regards,

NANCY PELOSI,
Democratic Leader.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL ASSISTS JAPAN

(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, all Americans have provided sympathy for the people of Japan due to the massive earthquake and tsunami, but I was grateful to learn last week at the Lexington Rotary Club, led by President Nick Pizzuti, that The Rotary Foundation is taking direct action. Special Assistant Bill Walker of the Second District Office is a dedicated Lexington Rotarian. The Rotary Japan and Pacific Islands Disaster Fund has been established for donations online worldwide. Rotary International President Ray Klinginsmith of Kirksville, Missouri, is promoting the people-to-people assistance in the best tradition of Rotary with his creed: Building Communities, Bridging Continents. Japan is a leading Rotary nation, and it is fitting the incoming RI president-nominee to continue the relief assistance is Sakuji Tanaka of the Rotary Club of Yashio, Saitama, Japan.

As a Rotarian, I appreciate Rotarians worldwide, with hundreds of new clubs in formerly Communist countries from Bulgaria to Slovakia to Russia making a difference with Service Above Self. As with Polio Plus, Rotarians can achieve humanitarian assistance which creates worldwide records for effectiveness.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

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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CONGRATULATING BELLARMINE KNIGHTS

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, in Louisville, we have a lot to be proud of—the Kentucky Derby, the Louisville Slugger, Muhammad Ali—and now the NCAA Division II Men's Basketball Champion Bellarmine Knights.

Led by Coach Scott Davenport, the Knights finished their regular season with 24 wins, won their second consecutive conference title, and stormed through the NCAA tournament to bring home the university's first national championship. The Knights corralled Mustangs and tamed Mavericks. And on Saturday, led by all-tourney players Jeremy Kendle and Justin Benedetti, Chris Dowe's 16 points, Luke Sprague's double-double, and clutch free throws from Hobbs and Holmes, the Knights grounded a Jet and sent the Seaside's packing. The Knights are true student athletes who overcame injuries and adversity bound together by trust—trust in their abilities and trust in each other. And let's not forget the trust and support of the fans who traveled by the busload nearly 900 miles to cheer on their Knights.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me today in congratulating Coach Davenport, the team, and the entire Bellarmine community on its 2011 NCAA national championship. This was a victory that made history—and on behalf of everyone in Louisville, we're proud to call the Knights our hometown heroes and national champions.

MR. PRESIDENT, AMERICA NEEDS ANSWERS

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, last night, the President took to the airwaves and talked to the Nation about the international efforts that America is leading in Libya. This comes almost 2 weeks after the President gave his approval for the United States to be involved in the action in Libya. The President discussed the United States' interest in the conflict, the limited involvement of the United States military, and the role of other countries. What the President failed to deliver was a clear articulation on what is America's role in this conflict. Putting our men and women in harm's way while not knowing the specifics of how and why is not just unacceptable, it is dangerous.

Mr. President, you need to be more forthcoming. The American people need more information. The American people certainly deserve answers. The explanation last night was disappointing, and we find ourselves even more frustrated as specific information was not provided. What is the exit strategy? What is the endgame? What

are our goals? How are we going to ensure that the next government of Libya is not even more hostile than the current regime?

The President does need to follow through with his actions. We need to have the resolve to see this through. The President waited too long to address the Nation. Certainly, the Congress needed to be involved. And certainly the American people needed to be involved.

□ 1410

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.

AIRPORT AND AIRWAY EXTENSION ACT OF 2011

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1079) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend the airport improvement program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1079

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 "Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2011".

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF TAXES FUNDING AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND.

(a) FUEL TAXES.—Subparagraph (B) of section 4081(d)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking "March 31, 2011" and inserting "May 31, 2011".

(b) TICKET TAXES.—

(1) PERSONS.—Clause (ii) of section 4261(j)(1)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking "March 31, 2011" and inserting "May 31, 2011".

(2) PROPERTY.—Clause (ii) of section 4271(d)(1)(A) of such Code is amended by striking "March 31, 2011" and inserting "May 31, 2011".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on April 1, 2011.

SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 9502(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by striking "April 1, 2011" and inserting "June 1, 2011"; and

(2) by inserting "or the Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2011" before the semicolon at the end of subparagraph (A).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (2) of section 9502(e) of such Code is amended

by striking "April 1, 2011" and inserting "June 1, 2011".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on April 1, 2011.

SEC. 4. EXTENSION OF AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 48103 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking the 2 paragraphs designated as paragraph (8) and inserting the following:

"(8) \$2,466,666,667 for the 8-month period beginning on October 1, 2010."

(2) OBLIGATION OF AMOUNTS.—Subject to limitations specified in advance in appropriation Acts, sums made available pursuant to the amendment made by paragraph (1) may be obligated at any time through September 30, 2011, and shall remain available until expended.

(3) PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION.—For purposes of calculating funding apportionments and meeting other requirements under sections 47114, 47115, 47116, and 47117 of title 49, United States Code, for the 8-month period beginning on October 1, 2010, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall—

(A) first calculate funding apportionments on an annualized basis as if the total amount available under section 48103 of such title for fiscal year 2011 were \$3,700,000,000; and

(B) then reduce by 20 percent—

(i) all funding apportionments calculated under subparagraph (A); and

(ii) amounts available pursuant to sections 47117(b) and 47117(f)(2) of such title.

(b) PROJECT GRANT AUTHORITY.—Section 47104(c) of such title is amended by striking "March 31, 2011," and inserting "May 31, 2011."

SEC. 5. EXTENSION OF EXPIRING AUTHORITIES.

(a) Section 40117(l)(7) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking "April 1, 2011," and inserting "June 1, 2011."

(b) Section 44302(f)(1) of such title is amended—

(1) by striking "March 31, 2011," and inserting "May 31, 2011,"; and

(2) by striking "June 30, 2011," and inserting "August 31, 2011,".

(c) Section 44303(b) of such title is amended by striking "June 30, 2011," and inserting "August 31, 2011,".

(d) Section 47107(s)(3) of such title is amended by striking "April 1, 2011," and inserting "June 1, 2011,".

(e) Section 47115(j) of such title is amended by striking "April 1, 2011," and inserting "June 1, 2011,".

(f) Section 47141(f) of such title is amended by striking "March 31, 2011," and inserting "May 31, 2011,".

(g) Section 49108 of such title is amended by striking "March 31, 2011," and inserting "May 31, 2011,".

(h) Section 161 of the Vision 100—Century of Aviation Reauthorization Act (49 U.S.C. 47109 note) is amended by striking "April 1, 2011," and inserting "June 1, 2011,".

(i) Section 186(d) of such Act (117 Stat. 2518) is amended by striking "April 1, 2011," and inserting "June 1, 2011,".

(j) The amendments made by this section shall take effect on April 1, 2011.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. CAPUANO) each will control 20 minutes. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5