



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 112th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 157

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2011

No. 46

Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, April 4, 2011, at 2 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2011

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord God, to Whom we are all accountable, You are also our source of freedom since we are created in Your image.

We praise You and thank You for the blessing to work here in Congress and serve You, Your people, and this Nation.

During this weekend, help us to enjoy the new life of spring and the gifts of family and friends. By drawing closer to beauty and love, mold us by Your spirit to be more fully Your free people and so a blessing to others both next week and forever.

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 New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HEINRICH 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

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

AMERICA IS READY FOR TOUGH SPENDING DECISIONS

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, the work ethic of the people of my district gives me great optimism despite the daily reminders that our Nation teeters on the edge of bankruptcy.

Individual Americans are rich in spirit, tradition, and innovation; but as a country, we're broke, all because the Federal Government has maxed out its credit card. This House is listening to the American people, and we have passed legislation representing significant spending cuts of historic proportions.

But HARRY REID and the President are not listening. Instead, they are threatening to shut down the government. Now they'll try to shift the blame and deny that America's economic problems are the result of their failed policies.

I believe America is ready for some tough spending decisions. We must give Americans the tools to grow the econ-

omy instead of growing government. I hope my fellow colleagues will join me in asking two questions when any spending bill comes before this House: How much is it going to cost? And who is going to pay for it? And if we can't afford it, and if the American taxpayer is going to foot the bill, we should be voting a resounding "no."

HONORING LIEUTENANT CANDICE KILLIAN

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

Mr. HEINRICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Women's History Month and to honor a very special hero stationed at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque.

First Lieutenant Candice Killian, of the 58th Training Squadron, is our Nation's first female pilot for the CV-22, also known as the Osprey. It is an elite honor for any pilot to fly the CV-22, and it's particularly unique to be the first woman in history to do so.

Unfortunately, the contributions that women make to our military and our Nation don't always get their due recognition; so it's a very special honor for me today to recognize First Lieutenant Killian as part of Women's History Month. I continue to be inspired by the great sacrifices made by leaders like First Lieutenant Killian in service to our Nation. Congratulations to First Lieutenant Killian on her distinguished service and sacrifice.

□ 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.



Printed on recycled paper.

H2217

THE RESTORING ECONOMIC CERTAINTY ACT

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

Mr. RIBBLE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1281, the Restoring Economic Certainty Act of 2011. This bill places a 24-month moratorium on the majority of new regulations promulgated by agencies, giving small businesses the certainty required to create jobs. The goal of this bill is to provide confidence to small businesses, which create the overwhelming majority of jobs in America. I am calling on Congress to enact a regulatory cooling off period. Let's give America's small businesses a chance to catch their breath from the over 23,000 rules and tens of thousands of pages of regulations that have been enacted since 2004.

As a business owner myself, I have seen firsthand the harmful impact that government regulations and uncertainty can have on job creation. Job creators have to know that they won't be punished by unelected Federal bureaucrats with additional rules, regulations, and redtape. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of H.R. 1281 today. Let's send job creators a clear signal that we are not going to allow government to be an impediment to business growth.

HOW SOON WE FORGET

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

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, how soon we forget. During the last congressional session, then-Minority Leader BOEHNER called deem-and-pass bills "a scheme and a plot," one that he has employed immediately upon assuming the Speakership.

It's doubly ironic because this particular deem-and-pass bill is blatantly unconstitutional, as it eliminates the Senate and President from the legislative process. Article I, section 7, clause 2 of the Constitution reads, "Every bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it become a law, be presented to the President of the United States; If he approve he shall sign it; but if not, he shall return it . . ."

This deem-and-pass spending bill would eliminate the inconvenience of the United States Senate passing or the President signing H.R. 1, the radical Republican proposals to eliminate 700,000 to 900,000 jobs. Whether or not Republicans ram it down our throats today is probably irrelevant since it is clearly unconstitutional, but we should vote it down as a matter of constitutional principle.

CONSERVATIVES WON THE ELECTION

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to ad-

dress the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, Democrats in the Senate should work with the Republicans to act on the continuing resolution. House Republicans successfully passed a bill over 40 days ago, and Senate Democrats have still not acted. Liberals in the Senate claim to have a plan of their own. Rather than voting on this plan, Senate Democrats have resorted to petty political gamesmanship.

Conservatives won the election in November. The American people spoke clearly, they want to put a halt to reckless spending. This is the conservative position in Congress. Any compromise should incorporate views of the American people. The Tea Party has made a difference. While liberals are encouraging a government shutdown, conservatives in Congress have passed a bill that would avoid this event. Leaders are expected to make tough decisions in difficult times. Continuing with one-line gimmicks to curry political favor is another political ploy in Washington that shows liberals are just out of touch with America. The American people know that reckless borrowing is a threat to American families. Young people know that debts are being passed to them.

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

PARTISAN EXTREMISM REACHES A NEW LOW

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

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise this morning in objection to the Republican leadership's blatant disregard for the Constitution.

Republicans' partisan extremism reached a new low this week with the willingness to ignore some of the most basic fundamentals of our Constitution. They have come up with a scheme called "deem and pass." I am outraged that the Republicans could believe that their job-killing budget could become law with just the approval of the House of Representatives. Every American should be offended by such an extreme, reckless, and clearly unconstitutional scheme.

Madam Speaker, Americans want Congress to move beyond the partisan extremism and political theater. It is time to negotiate a budget in good faith that invests in our future, protects our families, and helps move America toward greater economic recovery and prosperity.

□ 0910

HONORING THE LIFELONG ACHIEVEMENTS OF FOUR NAVAL ACADEMY GRADUATES

(Mr. DOLD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOLD. Madam Speaker, this past Friday I had the privilege to attend a ceremony before 4,000 Midshipmen at Annapolis honoring four distinguished graduates of the Naval Academy for their lifelong achievements and dedication to the United States Navy, Marine Corps and, indeed, to our Nation.

Dr. Bradford Parkinson, class of 1957, dedicated his life and effort to develop the Global Positioning System.

Lieutenant General Matthew Cooper, class of 1958, served two tours in Vietnam as a Commander in the Marine Corps Ground Reserve in Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and turned around the Toys for Tots Foundation.

Mr. Corbin McNeill, class of 1962, served for over 20 years in the submarine service, and later became the chairman and co-CEO of Exelon Corporation, headquartered in Illinois.

The fourth honoree holds a special place in my heart and in the heart of my family, Rear Admiral Robert Harper Shumaker, class of 1956, my Uncle Bob.

Madam Speaker, upon graduation from the Naval Academy, my uncle attended flight school and began his service in the United States Navy. On February 11, 1965, flying his F-8 Crusader, he was shot down over North Vietnam and was taken prisoner by the North Vietnamese. For over 8 years he was held prisoner, many of those years in the Hanoi Hilton, a name which he actually dubbed that prison camp.

Madam Speaker, my Uncle Bob has always served as an inspiration to me and to countless others. I was honored to see this special award bestowed upon him this past week, and I want to take this time to thank him and his fellow award recipients for their service not only to the Naval Academy and the Marine Corps but to our Nation.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

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

Mr. BARROW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to encourage the President and leaders of the House and Senate to work together to craft a long-term spending plan to prevent a government shutdown and get our Nation's finances back on track.

No business can thrive without a stable, long-term financial plan. The Federal Government can't either. The uncertainty we're operating under is costly to taxpayers, and it threatens the health of both the public and the private sectors.

As I travel around my district, I hear time and again from constituents who are tired of the heated political rhetoric. We can cater to political extremes or we can work together to resolve pressing issues.

Let's move beyond the weekly battles on discretionary spending and