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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Creator of the earth and skies, To Whom all truth and power belong, Grant us Your truth to make us wise, Grant us Your power to make us strong.

We have not known You:

To the skies our monuments of folly soar,

And all our self-wrought miseries

Have made us trust ourselves the more.

We have not loved You:

Far and wide the wreckage of our hatred spreads,

And evils wrought by human pride

Recoil on unrepentant heads.

We long to end this worldwide strife:

How shall we follow in Your way?

Speak to mankind Your words of life,

Until our darkness turns to day.

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.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. BARROW 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 1-minute requests on each side.

OUR NATION IS BROKE

(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, we have a national debt of more than \$14.2 trillion, and our unfunded obligations dwarf even that number. Each American taxpayer's share of our national debt is \$128,000 and rising.

Our Nation is broke. The Federal Government has maxed out its credit card. This House is listening to the American people, and we've put forth multiple plans to try to get our fiscal house in order, but HARRY REID and President Obama are still not listening.

The clock is ticking; and because of their inaction, we are hours away from a potential government shutdown. Now, they'll deny that this fiscal crisis has been caused by their failed policies, but Americans are too smart to fall for that.

Americans want the tools to grow the economy instead of growing gov-

ernment. So when making spending decisions, we should ask two simple questions in this House: How much does it cost? And who's going to pay for it? If we can't afford it and the American taxpayers are going to foot the bill, gentlemen, ladies, let's vote "no."

KEEPING ALL STUDENTS SAFE ACT

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, 1 year ago this House overwhelmingly passed bipartisan legislation that would have prevented children from being abused in classrooms; but, unfortunately, it never became the law. In the year since then, children have suffered and have been abused in school, and parents have felt completely helpless.

In 2009, the Government Accountability Office told our committee of the shocking wave of abuse by untrained school staff who were misusing emergency interventions. Most of these victims were children with disabilities. Some were 3 and 4 years old. In some cases, children died.

Restraint and seclusion should be used only as a last resort and by trained professionals, but the GAO found that was not the case. This is unacceptable, and yet it is a reality for too many children across the country.

A media report out yesterday highlights that these horrific abuses continued through this past year. In Chicago, a 4-year-old boy's wrists were taped together with painter's tape and then duct tape because he refused to take a nap and he didn't wash his hands. In Fayetteville, North Carolina, a 5-year-old student's arm was broken when a teacher held him down. In New Orleans, a teacher handcuffed a male student by his ankle to a chair because

□ 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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he didn't follow the teacher's instructions.

This abuse of children and the death of children has got to stop.

LIBERALS CREATE POSSIBLE SHUTDOWN

(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, Democrats in Congress are still setting up roadblocks to prevent a budget for this fiscal year. Trying to conceal reckless spending, the liberal majority in the last Congress refused to pass a budget, threatening jobs.

Rather than mortgaging the future like the previous Congress, House Republicans sent a commonsense budget to the Senate 47 days ago. This plan limits spending in order to promote job growth. Now we have liberals in the Senate refusing to pass the budget. This is failed leadership.

Democrats in Washington are out of touch with everyday Americans and would rather play the blame game than offer real solutions. The liberal House majority last year failed to pass a budget. The new conservative House passed a budget, but the liberal Senate majority has failed to pass a budget.

Liberals are clearly risking government shutdown.

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

HUNGER SHOULD NOT BE A PARTISAN ISSUE

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, of every 10 people going hungry today, six are women. They are hungry not only because they are the majority poor, with the least access to schools, land, and markets, but because every mother will go to bed hungry before her child does.

H.R. 1 cuts life-saving food aid, humanitarian and development programs almost in half. These programs make up less than 1 percent of the Federal budget. Slashing them does nothing to fix the deficit but will be devastating to millions of poor women and children.

When world food prices are at all-time highs and there are more hungry people in the world than ever before, this is unconscionable. Over 30,000 people—religious and social leaders—are fasting in opposition to these budget cuts.

Hunger should not be a partisan issue. I urge all my colleagues to join these brave citizens and reject these draconian cuts. Support programs that protect the hungry and the most vulnerable here at home and around the world.

Learn more at www.hungerfast.org.

□ 1010

RECONSIDERATION OF THE GOLDSTONE REPORT

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

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, the U.N. commissioned its infamous Goldstone Report following the 2008-2009 war between Hamas in Gaza and the State of Israel, a war which grew out of Hamas's ongoing rocket attacks, well over 4,000, intended to terrorize communities in southern Israel. This report alleged the sickening conclusion that Israel deliberately targeted civilians as a matter of policy, an accusation grossly offensive to me as an American, and to the only nation in the Middle East whose freedoms and commitment to humanitarian values we all recognize and admire as mirroring our own.

The Goldstone Report has been held high by those in the international community seeking to delegitimize the State of Israel's very own existence. Now Richard Goldstone has publicly distanced himself from the deeply flawed conclusions of his own report.

So, Mr. Speaker, I ask: Where does a nation go to get its reputation back?

I hope and urge that we can begin to talk to the administration to inform the U.N. and the members of the Goldstone Commission to reconsider its own report, to block U.N. actions based on its falsehoods, and to expeditiously introduce a measure properly exonerating Israel from this damaging libel.

GULFSTREAM TRIBUTE

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

Mr. BARROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deep sadness over the passing of four Gulfstream Aerospace employees who perished in a test flight crash in Roswell, New Mexico, this past Saturday.

Gulfstream is headquartered in my congressional district, and I know firsthand the hard work, discipline, and dedication that Gulfstream employees put into their work. Last week, four of those employees lost their lives in the line of duty.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family, friends, and colleagues of Kent Crenshaw, Vivan Ragusa, David McCollum, and Reece Ollenburg. Today I want to honor their lives and their legacies. They will be missed by their families, colleagues, and communities, and they have our deepest respect and appreciation.

SPENDING AND THE GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, as we are all very well aware, we are on the verge of a potential government shutdown over the critical issue of spending. For those who are confused by the caterwauling that they hear from this Chamber as to where the parties stand in relation to spending your money and the future deficits and debt of this country, let me put it as clearly as I can.

The Democrats support shutting down the government for more spending. The Republicans support keeping open the government with less spending. I trust your wisdom to determine which you prefer and which you deem in the interests of this country.

REPUBLICAN BUDGET

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I stand here this morning very troubled because the Republican budget will end Medicare and eliminate the guaranteed coverage. This is un-American.

It slashes Medicaid for seniors in nursing homes, health care for children, and Americans with disabilities. This is un-American.

It increases the cost of college education for close to 10 million middle class students and their families. It gives away billions in subsidies to tax breaks for Big Oil, and it gives tax cuts for the wealthy that will add \$1 trillion to the deficit. It gives tax breaks to corporations that send jobs overseas.

Yes, we must cut, but we must cut with common sense. We must not gut the future of America. It has to be sensible.

PROHIBIT EPA FROM REGULATING FLY ASH AS A HAZARDOUS MATERIAL

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

Mr. MCKINLEY. Today, Mr. Speaker, I am introducing legislation that will prohibit the EPA from regulating fly ash as a hazardous material.

Fly ash is an unavoidable byproduct of burning coal to produce electricity. Fly ash has been repeatedly tested and approved by the EPA for use by America's customers. Recycling fly ash helps to keep electric generation costs down, which in turn keeps electricity affordable for all our consumers. But if the EPA persists with its plans to designate fly ash as a hazardous material, the expense of handling the material will increase logarithmically, and so will our energy costs.