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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, July 18, 2011, at 2 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2011

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PoE of Texas).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

 $\begin{array}{c} {\rm WASHINGTON,\ DC,}\\ July\ 15,\ 2011.\\ {\rm I\ hereby\ appoint\ the\ Honorable\ TED\ POE\ to}\\ {\rm act\ as\ Speaker\ pro\ tempore\ on\ this\ day.} \end{array}$

JOHN A. BOEHNER, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Eternal God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

As the House gathers at the end of a difficult week, grant the Members peace and calm, that they might attend to the issues and policies that they continue to consider. May they honor the values and traditions that we share as a people. Help them be mindful of the gifts of peace, justice, fairness, and respect that are our common heritage.

As it is so often easy for all of us to focus on what separates one from another, may our understanding that You have created us as one people remind us of the values that bind us all together as Americans in the human family

May all that is done this day in the people's House be for Your greater honor and glory.

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 Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. QUIGLEY 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 PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side.

NEED FOR BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, if our Nation's debt crisis has taught us anything, it is that we need a permanent fiscal solution to keep America the permanent land of the free for our children and grandchildren. There is only one way to bind Congress to such a

commitment, and that is a constitutional amendment requiring us to balance the budget.

Ordinary spending cuts and pledges to slash the deficit are no longer sufficient. Washington went on a record spending binge in the last 2 years and left Americans in an economic hangover. New taxes, as some propose, would only punish the victim and reward the spenders with more money to waste. We need to stop spending money we don't have and begin living within our means. The future of our Nation depends on it.

A Washington promise is always temporary. A constitutional amendment is permanent. For the sake of tomorrow's generations, let's get it done today.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND THE DEBT CRISIS

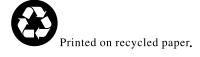
(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KUCINICH. The huffing and puffing over the debt crisis is reminiscent of Washington's tumult over the Wall Street bailout: Panic the public with claims the sky is falling and then start to drop things from the sky. In this case threats that Social Security checks will not be sent out.

We must avoid default, but Social Security didn't cause the debt crisis. Social Security has nothing to do with the debt crisis. Withholding Social Security checks or cutting Social Security benefits would represent a default

☐ 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.



to the American people and an abandonment of the principles of the economic justice that created Social Security

The White House wants a big deal, a \$4 trillion debt deal. But that deal must not come from cuts to Social Security—or Medicare, for that matter. Millions of senior citizens, who in their lifetime built this country, who fought for this country, who depend on their Social Security check as an economic lifeline want to see if their concerns are a big deal to us.

IN DEFENSE OF SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS

(Mr. YODER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his re-

Mr. YODER. Today I rise in defense of small business owners across the country who are attempting to survive under a mountain of taxes, rules, and regulations coming out of Washington, D.C.

Seven out of ten new jobs in this country are created by small business owners. To get our economy back on track, we know it's these innovators and entrepreneurs who have to start growing and creating jobs.

Entrepreneurship is at a 17-year low. In the last few years, there has been a 23 percent drop in new business creation, falling to the lowest level since 1994

Instead of debating ways to raise taxes and further burden these job creators, we should spend our time trying to eliminate the job-killing policies coming out of this administration.

Mr. Speaker, it's time that we support the free enterprise system. It's time that we get our fiscal house in order. And it's time that we get America back to work again.

HONORING MALCOLM "KIM" CHACE

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a great Rhode Island citizen and a dear friend, the late Malcolm "Kim" Chace. My fellow Rhode Islanders and I have lost a great leader in Kim's passing. He will long be remembered for his warmth, humor, and devotion to the community.

Kim was a brilliant business leader. You couldn't be in the same room with him and not realize how intelligent he was.

Equally apparent was his tremendous generosity of spirit. He demonstrated that generosity over again and again in contributions to numerous community and educational organizations, including Women and Infants Hospital, Trinity Repertory Company, Brown University, Bryant University, the Gordon School, the Rhode Island School of Design, to name just a few.

Kim was always happy to donate his time and resources to the service of Rhode Island. He always offered a quiet kindness to me and to all those around him. Kim was a true gentleman.

Kim's most important treasure was his wonderful family. My thoughts and prayers are with Liz and the entire Chace family.

Kim's presence will be deeply missed.

SUPPORT THE CUT, CAP, AND BALANCE ACT

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, America is facing a fiscal crisis of unprecedented proportions—a \$14 trillion national debt, another \$1.6 trillion deficit, and now a debt ceiling crisis looms.

As negotiations go forward, Members of Congress have a choice to make. We can take a stand or we can take a pass. I say it's time to take a stand. And the Cut, Cap, and Balance Act of 2011 is that stand.

As the White House and liberals here on Capitol Hill continue to argue over the details of some kind of an obscure, complicated deal over raising the debt ceiling, in the coming days House Republicans will bring legislation to the floor that will give the American people a choice. And it will be a choice built on fiscal responsibility and reform.

The legislation that will come to the floor will cut spending now, it will cap spending in the law, and it will make any increase in the debt ceiling contingent on sending a balanced budget amendment to the States.

I urge my colleagues to support the Cut, Cap, and Balance Act of 2011, and I urge my fellow Americans to let your voice be heard in the coming days. We can cut spending now, we can cap spending in the law, and we can send a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution to the States for ratification. But the American people must engage.

A minority in Congress plus the American people equals a majority. Help us as we achieve this needed reform and restore fiscal sanity to our national government.

□ 1010

THE MURDOCH NEWS CORPORATION SCANDAL

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Amidst the spreading scandal of the Murdoch News Corporation, it is clear that it wasn't as they first claimed, just a rogue reporter or two. There's a pattern of abuse, some illegal, that was widely practiced and known, perhaps encouraged, certainly tolerated.

It is important for the FBI, the SEC, hopefully Congress itself, to inves-

tigate the News Corps-FOX-Wall Street Journal conglomerate and not just about the concerns of potential spying on 9/11 victims, which would be reprehensible if true, but possible violations of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, which makes it illegal for American citizens to bribe foreign officials.

Some claim we ought to go easy on the Murdoch News Corporation so we don't appear partisan. But just giving money to the Republican Party, hiring Republican Presidential candidates, slanting the news and commentary should not give them a pass for questionable, perhaps illegal, conduct. We must ensure that Americans are not abused by the News Corps management practices or employees.

DEBT LIMIT

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the President wants Congress to raise the debt ceiling without a corresponding plan to cut spending and balance the budget and insists raising taxes is the only way forward. The reality is that doing so amounts to a Barack Obama bailout for his out-of-control spending that got us here in the first place: a bailout for his \$1 trillion ObamaCare, a bailout for the failed stimulus, a bailout for "Government Motors," a bailout for Fannie and Freddie.

According to a new poll in Politico, voters expressed significantly more support for spending cuts, and only 11 percent of voters see tax hikes as the main way of closing the deficit. America has got it right: it's time to cut spending, balance the budget, and pay down the debt for our children and our grandchildren without raising taxes.

Just say "no" to a Barack Obama bailout. Even his bailouts need a bailout.

UNDERMINING THE ATF

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mark Twain is credited with quipping: "Denial ain't just a river in Egypt." If he were around today, he might add: It also passes for gun policy in the U.S. Congress.

The ATF is under fast and furious fire right now, and rightly so. Allowing hundreds of guns to "walk" in the hopes of catching big fish traffickers was terribly ill advised. But so too is Congress's excuse for gun policy. And sorry, folks, but the two are not entirely unrelated. If Congress wants to crack down on straw purchasing and stop the trafficking of firearms to Mexico, it is operating from the mother of all playbooks of how you would not accomplish it:

Chapter 1, ensure that the ATF remains devoid of leadership; Chapter 2,