

was what was referred to as an archousa. It took me a while, Mr. Speaker, to figure out how to pronounce that word, but she was an archousa of Gamma Sigma Boule of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity.

Mr. Speaker, Cassandra Ward leaves a very, very loving family. In addition to her parents and her husband, she leaves three siblings, Johnnie Lloyd, Jr., Jarvis Lloyd, and one loving sister that she was extremely close to, Crystal Lloyd Williams, and her sister-in-law, Felecia Hardy, and her husband, Dr. James Hardy.

She is also survived by other relatives and friends, and especially her very special nieces and nephews: Johnnie Lloyd, III; Alecia Hardy, Jarvis Lloyd and Eboni, Jamie Hardy, Jamecia Hardy, Mary Noel Williams, and Gabrielle Williams. They all comprise the wonderful family of Cassandra Lloyd Ward.

I ask my colleagues today to join with me in honoring the life and work of this great American, Cassandra Lloyd Ward.

DON'T ASK DON'T TELL REPEAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, today is a very important day in our fight to achieve full equality for all Americans in the face of prejudices of various sorts. To commemorate, I want to read a very extraordinary document. It is headlined, "Don't Ask Don't Tell Repeal." It's an official communication.

"Today marks the end of 'Don't Ask Don't Tell.' The law is repealed. From this day forward, gay and lesbian soldiers may serve in our Army with the dignity and respect they deserve. Our rules, regulations, and policies reflect the repeal guidance issued by the Department of Defense and will apply uniformly without regard to sexual orientation, which is a personal and private matter.

"For over 236 years, the U.S. Army has been an extraordinary force for good in the world. Our soldiers are the most agile, adaptable, and capable warriors in history—and we are ready for this change.

"Over the last several months, our leaders, soldiers and Department of the Army civilians have discussed, trained, and prepared for this day. The President, the Secretary of Defense, and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs have certified that repeal is consistent with military readiness, effectiveness, unit cohesion, and recruiting and retention. Your professionalism, leadership, and respect for your fellow soldiers will ensure that this effort is successful.

"At the heart of our success is adherence to the Army values. These standards not only infuse every facet of our culture and operations, but also guide us as we adapt to change. Loyalty,

duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage are not mere words to us—they are the very principles by which we live, train, and fight.

"Accordingly, we expect all personnel to follow our values by implementing the repeal fully, fairly, and in accordance with policy guidance. It is the duty of all personnel to treat each other with dignity and respect, while maintaining good order and discipline throughout our ranks. Doing so will help the U.S. Army remain the strength of the Nation."

It is signed by Raymond F. Chandler, III, the Sergeant Major of the Army; Raymond T. Odierno, General, United States Army Chief of Staff; and John M. McHugh, Secretary of the Army and, parenthetically, our former colleague on the Republican side.

□ 1220

Mr. Speaker, we have a history in this country of prejudice being enacted; and through the efforts of many people, the policy embodying that prejudice can be overcome. And as we debate any single effort to overcome prejudice, we are told that the effect of diminishing that prejudice, the effect of repealing that rule will be chaos, will be disorder, will be social unrest; and it is never true.

Seven years ago, the State I am privileged to represent in this House established same-sex marriage; and there were predictions of doom, predictions that this would be a terribly upsetting factor. None of those predictions have come true. Not a one. As we debated last year the repeal of the unfortunate statute which said that brave and patriotic gay and lesbian and bisexual and transgender members of the armed services would have to lie about who they were, would have to hide who they were or else lose the right to serve their country, a right which some evade but for which they were prepared to fight, we once again heard predictions that this would be disruptive, that it would cause diminution of the ability of our brave men and women to serve their purposes.

Let me predict today, Mr. Speaker, that every one of those prejudices 3 and 4 years from now will be proven as wrong as the predictions that same-sex marriage would be disorganizing. We will now see gay men and lesbians serving this country openly and proudly as they have been serving this country proudly, but unfortunately not openly, for some time. I hope people are making note of the predictions that were made on the floor of this House, in the Senate, and in the country about the negative consequences of "don't ask don't tell," because they will soon be shown to have been wholly false.

Finally, I want to commend Sergeant Major Chandler, General Odierno, and Secretary McHugh. This is a very profound and important document. They are acting in the highest traditions of their constitutional duty, of patriot-

ism, and of respect for our constitutional principles. I welcome this statement, and I believe it is going to be proven to be a harbinger of a situation in which the full integration of gay and lesbian and bisexual and transgender members of the military goes forward with no negative consequences, with all of the positive consequences that come from respecting people and abolishing prejudice.

REMEMBERING SENATOR CHARLES PERCY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to pay tribute to a great American who lived in the State of Illinois, who represented it and the country well, Senator Charles Percy.

I recall that when Senator Percy was elected, I was a young schoolteacher, community activist. I also was an individual who interacted with lots of people who were very cynical about government, politics, whether or not there was any potential for change. So we had an opportunity to see in action one of the most forceful individuals in public life, one that you didn't describe necessarily as a Democrat or a Republican. You didn't characterize him as a conservative or a liberal. You really thought of Senator Percy as simply a good, solid United States Senator who represented well not only his constituents, but who provided leadership for the Nation and for the country.

I think I learned at that time the meaning of town hall meetings because Senator Percy would hold those; and although he was a Republican by political stripe—and many of the people where I lived and interacted with were Democrats in terms of political stripe—we just would turn out at Senator Percy's town halls to know what was taking place, what was going on, what was happening. I personally owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to him for helping to shape my own political philosophy, some of my political ideology, some of the things that I dream about and hope for and work towards.

And so I extend condolences to his family, wish them well, and know that America is a better place because Chuck Percy served in the United States Senate and served all of America.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HARRIS) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

It is the beginning of a new work-week, and facing these decisive times we use this moment to be assured of Your presence and to tap the resources needed by the Members of this people's House to do their work as well as it can be done.

May they be led by Your spirit in the decisions they make. May they possess Your power as they steady themselves amid the pressures of persistent problems. May their faith in You deliver them from tensions that tear the House apart and from worries that might wear them out.

All this day and through the week, may they do their best to find solutions to pressing issues facing our Nation. Please hasten the day when justice and love shall dwell in the hearts of all peoples and rule the affairs of the nations of Earth.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

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 South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina 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.

RAISING TAXES DESTROYS JOBS

(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, in August 2009, the President stated, "You do not raise taxes in a recession." This week, the same President proposed \$1.5 trillion in higher taxes as more than 14 million Americans are without jobs.

The President's tax increase proposal is based on the false belief that Big Government can spend the money of

hardworking American families better than the people who have earned it.

Tax increases destroy jobs. You cannot create jobs by increasing taxes. The merit of an economic policy can be tested by the amount of jobs it creates. So far, this President's policy has failed. Zero new jobs were created in August.

By passing numerous bills that focus on getting Americans back to work, House Republicans have focused on job creation since January. It's time for this administration to change from failed policies.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism. Our prayers are with Aiken and Barnwell, Assistant Solicitor Steve Kodman and Jennifer, and their sons, Patrick, Thomas, and Drew.

PRESIDENT OBAMA HAS DEFINED THE UNCERTAINTY THAT'S HURTING OUR ECONOMY

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

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, recently I had the opportunity to meet with a constituent of mine who also happens to be a minor celebrity. Rock Katschnig is the farmer who had the chance to ask President Obama last month about regulation and red tape coming from unelected and unaccountable bureaucracies, such as the EPA. The President's not-so-reassuring response: "If you hear something's happening but hasn't yet, don't always assume it's true." What President Obama said defines the uncertainty that has crippled our small businesses, entrepreneurs, and job creators and hamstrung our economic recovery.

Businesses don't plan just for tomorrow; they plan for next week, next month, and next year. All red tape, even if it hasn't happened yet, affects a business's decisions about hiring, expansion, and investment. That's why businesses are desperate for regulatory certainty, a message I heard not only from Rock, the farmer, but from countless other small business owners across my district. They want to grow, but they won't if they don't know what Washington will do to them. And that's why we are advancing our fall agenda to deliver that regulatory certainty so that small business owners and enterprises can invest, grow, create jobs, and get our economy moving again.

OLD WEST STYLE

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, at a border forum in Brownsville, Texas, yesterday, Special Ranger Roland Garcia for the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association testified about the results of the porous and unsecure border and how it affects ranch-

ers. He said the drug cartels are a fear-some enemy. "They intimidate landholders and instill terror in them—then fear follows."

The landholders are fearful to report cross-border activity because of the silent threat of reprisal and retaliation. The landholders feel that the government cannot protect them, their land, or their cattle. Texas ranchers fear that they may be targets of kidnappings for ransom. They have received death threats if they report illegal activity to law enforcement.

Ranger Garcia is concerned that landholders will start self-policing, in other words, organize and deal with the cartel intruders themselves—old west style. This testimony is yet more alarming evidence that the invasion of our borders by the cartels is a real national security threat to the people who live near our border.

And that's just the way it is.

MEDIA BIAS CHANGES ELECTION RESULTS

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, liberal media bias gives Democratic candidates an extra 8 to 10 percentage points in a typical election, according to a study by UCLA political science professor Tim Groseclose. For example, Professor Groseclose found that if media bias didn't exist, JOHN MCCAIN would have defeated Barack Obama with 56 percent of the vote.

In his new book, "Left Turn: How Liberal Media Bias Distorts the American Mind," Professor Groseclose writes, "While the job of a journalist is to shine light on facts, they use a prism, bending the light and causing it to make a left turn. The end result is that we, the readers and viewers of the news, are more likely to see facts from the left side of the spectrum."

As we approach another important election year, the national media should give Americans the facts, not tell them what to think.

□ 1410

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on the Judiciary:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 15, 2011.
Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House, The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: I am writing to inform you of my resignation, effective immediately, from the House Judiciary Committee. It is my intention that this is a leave of absence with retention of my seniority and I fully intend to serve on this Committee again in the next Congress. If you have any