

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 43 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until noon.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

#### PRAYER

Reverend Judith Wright, First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church, Northborough, Massachusetts, offered the following prayer:

We gather this afternoon, a rich tapestry of faith woven together by diverse religious and spiritual beliefs.

In the midst of this theological diversity, may we choose acceptance and love towards one another and strive to live harmoniously and respectfully with all people of our great country and all living beings on our fragile, cherished planet.

May that which guides us towards the highest within ourselves lead us on this precious day, as well as every day of our lives, to embrace compassion, love, and equity in all relations.

May we respect the inherent worth and dignity of every person and grasp our profound interconnectedness with all.

May we ceaselessly help those who suffer, for as they suffer, so do we.

May people everywhere live in peace with each other and all living creatures without disturbing one another.

In the name of all that is holy.

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 Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MCGOVERN 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.

#### WELCOMING REVEREND JUDITH WRIGHT

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Reverend Judith E. Wright, who is serving as the House guest chaplain today.

For the past 9 years, Reverend Wright has served as the minister of the First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church in Northborough, Massachusetts. During this time, Reverend Wright has played an integral role in our community, engaging her parishioners and encouraging their support for vital safety net programs in central Massachusetts.

Under her leadership, the First Parish has directly supported many social action programs, including the Community Meals Program and Habitat for Humanity. As we continue to emerge from a damaging recession, it is more important than ever to encourage support for these organizations that assist our neighbors by helping to provide food for those who are hungry and shelter for those who are homeless.

Reverend Wright's dedication to assisting the most vulnerable members of our community is laudable, and I am deeply inspired by her work to better the lives of the people of central Massachusetts.

It is one of Reverend Wright's parishioners, Stephanie Sullivan, who first approached my office about the possibility of Reverend Wright serving as the guest chaplain. Stephanie's profound respect and admiration for the work of Reverend Wright motivated me to nominate her to serve as our guest chaplain today.

I ask my colleagues to join me in welcoming Reverend Wright to the Chamber and in celebrating her lifetime of service.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WESTMORELAND). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

#### ONE YEAR LATER, PIRATES ON THE LAKE NOT PROSECUTED

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it's been almost a year since David Hartley was gunned down by Zeta pirates on Falcon Lake in Texas. The Hartley family still has no suspect, no body, and no justice. David's wife, Tiffany, can't get any answers from our government since it apparently has abandoned the investigation of her husband's murder, so she has actually sued the government to get information.

When ICE Agent Jaime Zapata was murdered in Mexico, the United States quickly pressured Mexico to inves-

tigate the homicide, as it should. But why is our government silent about finding who is responsible for killing David Hartley and other Americans murdered in lawless Mexico?

On Monday, at a border forum I held in Brownsville, Texas, Tiffany Hartley said: "The men who murdered David are right across the river. They aren't in Afghanistan; they aren't in Iraq. They're in our own backyard."

The United States hunts down terrorists around the globe. It's time we hold Mexico accountable for finding the narcoterrorists in their country who murder Americans.

And that's just the way it is.

#### THE END OF DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL

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

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday marked the end of the military's Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy. For 18 years, it forced thousands of servicemen and -women from our Armed Forces and discouraged countless other patriotic Americans from enlisting. The policy weakened our military by removing highly skilled, trained, and capable servicemembers from the ranks at a time when we were sending our men and women in uniform on multiple deployments to fight two wars.

Today, our country is stronger because we all benefit from a military that takes advantage of all the talents our Nation has to offer.

This policy ended because of the work of many, including my predecessor, Congressman Marty Meehan, who introduced the first bill in the House of Representatives to repeal this policy.

Our servicemen and -women are, first and foremost, Americans protecting freedom throughout the world. Today, at last, all these brave people no longer have to hide who they are in order to serve their country.

#### THE UNITED NATIONS AND ISRAEL

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

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Speaker, Israel is America's best and only reliable ally in the Middle East. Now the national security of Israel is being threatened by the Palestinians' rejection of the Oslo Peace Accords as they seek recognition directly from the United Nations.

America stands firmly with Israel and believes that peace in the Middle East can only be achieved through a negotiated solution.

I call on the Palestinian Authority to make peace with the democracy of Israel and the free world and to reject the terrorists of Hamas.

Prime Minister Netanyahu should be applauded for his efforts to restart direct, one-on-one negotiations with

President Abbas without the influence of outside organizations.

Today, President Abbas should abandon Palestine's push for a vote on statehood and reengage with Israel to forge a lasting peace accord.

#### REPEAL OF DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today under the dome of our Nation's Capitol to applaud the final repeal of the discriminatory policy known as Don't Ask, Don't Tell.

The men and women who fight for our country as members of our Armed Forces fight for what's right, what's fair, and what's just. They fight without asking at what cost, without asking why and how long they must endure.

This September 11 marked 10 years since that fateful day when our country was attacked. As I returned home from Chicago, boarded my plane and landed safely in Washington, I marveled at the dome that still sat, untouched by those who would do us harm, because of those who had no fear, those who gave their last full measure of devotion.

And today, I'm emboldened further by the fact that these same soldiers who have continued to fight and die for our safety can now do so without having to hide who they are or who they love. Our soldiers fight for what's right, what's fair, and what's just. Finally, we have managed to provide the same to them.

□ 1210

#### NO NEW TAXES

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

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, the President's plans to raise taxes on small business across America will hurt the economy and kill jobs. Small business creates 70 percent of the jobs in America. Unemployment is 9 percent in the country and even higher in my State of Florida.

The threat of a double-dip recession is greater than ever. The last thing we should be doing is raising taxes on job creators.

The White House claims the \$1.6 trillion tax increase won't affect small businesses and jobs. But as someone that's been in business 30 years and created thousands of jobs, they're wrong.

Millions of small businesses file their individual taxes through an individual tax code, and that means that their taxes will go up. In fact, 48 percent of small business income will face higher tax rates under the President's plan.

We need to enact pro-growth policies that create jobs, not kill them. I urge

my colleagues to reject the administration's tax hikes on job creators.

#### DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL REPEAL

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

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I want to note that the sun indeed came up in America today even after we've allowed people who are gay and lesbian to serve in our military.

We had a discussion for about 18 years, and now we have finally taken a step forward to liberty and freedom and equality again as we have so many times in American history.

Now we need to make sure that those new families that are serving in the military get their benefits like everyone else, and that's the next thing we need to work on.

Then we have to realize that the day will come when we recognize full marriage equality in this great country as another step forward just like we had yesterday. And when that great day comes, the sun will come up in the morning in America because we were continuing our quest to be a more just, more equal society.

#### NEW TAXES WILL NOT CREATE NEW 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, raising taxes on hardworking American families in this economy will not create new jobs. The President already explained that raising taxes in a down economy does not make sense.

Washington's financial problems are not caused by a shortage of revenue. Washington's financial problems are a direct result of skyrocketing wasteful spending such as \$16 muffins for the DOJ. Promises like the failed stimulus bill have been revealed as empty slogans, failing the promise of holding unemployment below 8 percent. Twenty-five million Americans are still seeking full-time jobs.

The best way to promote jobs is to offer solutions focused on getting Americans back to work. Providing certainty with regard to tax reform while easing the burden of unnecessary regulations will enable job creators to hire once again.

House Republicans have sought to achieve this goal by passing legislation aimed at cutting redtape involved with running small businesses. Reforms are being blocked by liberals with the threat of a Presidential veto.

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

#### REPEAL OF DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the end of a shameful and discriminatory policy, the policy of Don't Ask, Don't Tell, and to honor our brave military men and women who have served under it for almost two decades.

As Thomas Jefferson wrote in our Declaration of Independence, "Our country was conceived on the promise that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

Through nearly two-and-a-half centuries, these words have guided our Nation and made our society even more free. Repealing Don't Ask, Don't Tell is one more step towards full equality, but there is still so much work to be done.

Regrettably, because of the Defense of Marriage Act, servicemembers will continue to face disparities for family programs and benefits even though they've made the same sacrifices as their fellow members of the armed services. This is not right. Let us be guided by the words of Thomas Jefferson and provide these men and women with the benefits they've earned in service to our country.

I commend President Obama for bringing an end to this divisive policy and the senior members of our Nation's military who have begun to implement the change, and congratulate my colleagues here in Congress.

I'm proud to honor the service of all of our men and women in uniform who serve in harm's way and to mark the end of Don't Ask, Don't Tell.

#### TRIBUTE TO CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 4 DAVID R. CARTER

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

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a soldier who made the ultimate sacrifice and laid down his life for our freedom, United States Army Chief Warrant Officer 4 David R. Carter.

Chief Warrant Officer Carter dedicated himself to over 24 years of military service. As a member of the Colorado Army National Guard, he deployed to Afghanistan last summer. On August 6, 2011, he was piloting a CH-47 helicopter on a mission to reinforce a unit under attack in Wardak Province. On that tragic day, he was one of 30 Americans lost when their helicopter was brought down by enemy fire.

Dave Carter was regarded as one of the most highly trained aviators in Colorado, with multiple combat deployments and over 4,000 flight hours.